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ABSTRACT

The 13 tables and figures in this report provide summary information about those who took the General Educational Development (GED) Tests in 1996 and the jurisdictions that administer those tests. Most tables summarize information for the United States and Territories, Canada, GED Testing Service, and Program Total. Each table is arranged to provide data within the following umbrella topics: percent changes from 1995-1996; number tested, number completing tests, and number meeting score requirements; people tested and credentials issued by age groups; special test editions and testing accommodations; formal education and future plans; trends in participation and in credentialing; participation and credentialing rates; and minimum score requirements and testing policies. The publication also includes the names, addresses, and telephone numbers of the GED administrators and participating jurisdictions and a list of 24 selected publications and a GED publications order form. Some highlights of the statistics include the following: (1) in 1996, 758,570 persons worldwide completed the GED, a 5 percent rise over the previous year; (2) 524,482 earned high school equivalency credentials by passing the GED Tests; and (3) 14 percent more persons required special accommodations for disabilities than in the previous year. (KC)

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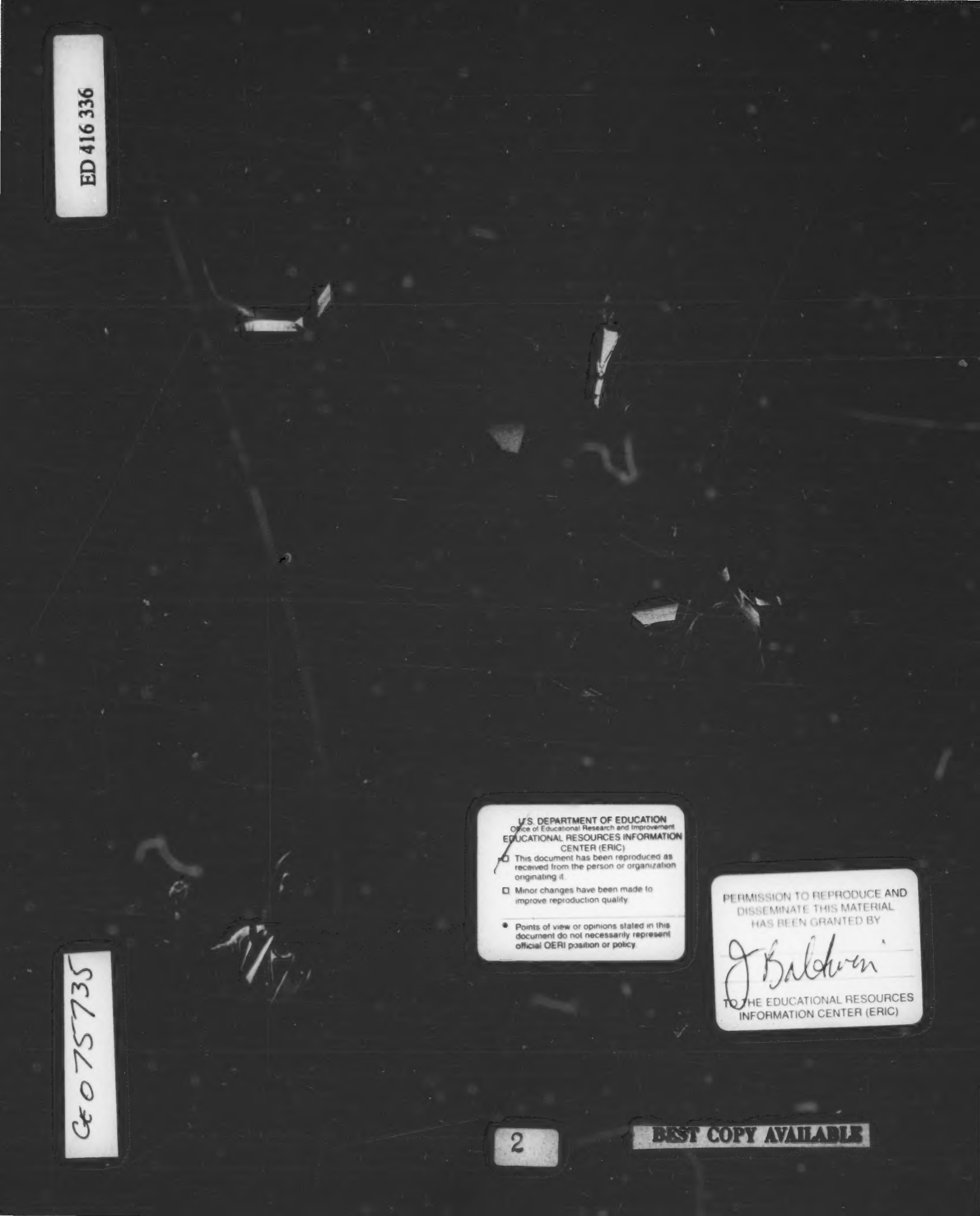

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Who took the GED?

GED 1996 Statistical Report

Edited by Janet Baldwin

GED Testing Service

The Center for Adult Learning and Educational Credentials

AMERICAN COUNCIL ON EDUCATION

Foreword

EACH NEW YEAR, PUBLICATION OF *WHO TOOK THE GED?* IS AN EXCITING event, because it reminds us of the incredible diversity of GED test-takers past and present. From top-ranking military officials to country western singing stars, from graduate students to college professors, from business leaders to grocery clerks, the GED represents renewed opportunity for hundreds of thousands of individuals each year.

The one description that seems to apply to all of those who take the GED Tests is that they are adults in transition. Having left formal schooling before completion, they recognize that a high school credential is an important key to further education, training, and better jobs. In fact, about two in every three adults who take the tests report they plan to pursue education beyond the high school level. Passing the GED Tests transforms their aspirations into demonstrated accomplishment, validates their educational abilities, and signals their motivation to improve their chances in life.

Indeed, for most test-takers, the GED is not an educational end point, but rather the beginning of further education and training. Each year, we try to illustrate this fact by including photographs typical of those who take the GED Tests and the environments in which they study and work. Though not necessarily photos of actual test-takers, they represent the faces that lie behind the tables and numbers found in this annual report.

GED candidates report a variety of reasons for not completing high school. In 1989, reasons given as most *important were disengagement from school (24 percent), marriage or pregnancy (20 percent), home and family problems (18 percent), and employment-related reasons (15 percent). These findings, and those presented in photograph captions elsewhere in this report, are based on published findings from national studies of GED candidates (see p. 40 for further information).*

Veteran readers of *Who Took the GED?* will notice some changes in the categories reported in each table. One major change is the addition of the Province of Ontario, Canada. Ontario joined the program in 1996, following a preliminary pilot study in 1995, bringing the total number of participating Canadian jurisdictions to eleven. There were also changes in some of the categories of persons whose tests are scored by the GED Testing Service. For example, the previous category, Foreign Nationals Overseas, has been eliminated. In addition, the category U.S. Civilians Overseas has been replaced with two new categories, U.S. Embassies and Overseas: Non-Military. The previous category, U.S. Military Overseas has been renamed, Overseas: Military.

Calendar year 1996 was a most eventful year for the GED Testing Service, marking a season of change at the American Council on Education. During the fall of 1996, Stanley O. Ikenberry assumed the ACE presidency, Susan Porter Robinson was appointed interim director of the Center for Adult Learning and Educational Credentials, and Joan Auchter was appointed interim director of the GED Testing Service. The end of 1996 also marked a change to a new higher minimum passing score requirement. This new requirement—a minimum of 40 on each test AND a mean of 45 over the entire battery—went into effect January 1, 1997.

Throughout these changes, some familiar faces labored to produce *Who Took the GED? The GED 1996 Statistical Report*, and to them we owe a special thanks. Debra Louallen-Cole has once again coordinated production and directed data collection and quality control activities. Sen Qi continued to refine and extend procedures for data analysis and for producing the tables and graphs. Zenitta Jones again lent her skills to data entry and verification. Most importantly, production of this report was a collaborative effort among our dedicated GED Administrators (whose names appear beginning on page 34), Chief Examiners, advisors to the GED program, and our staff. All who participated in producing this report wish to thank the more than 867,000 individuals who invested their time and energy in taking this year's GED Tests. It is, as always, their hope and vision that has inspired and directed our efforts in this project.

Janet Baldwin

Director of Research

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Jeff Goldberg

Introduction

The GED Testing Service
Joan E. Auchter, Interim Director

THE TESTS OF GENERAL EDUCATIONAL DEVELOPMENT (GED) PROVIDE ADULTS who did not complete high school with an opportunity to earn a high school equivalency diploma. By taking and passing a series of five tests in writing skills, social studies, science, interpreting literature and the arts, and mathematics, adults demonstrate they have acquired a level of learning that is comparable to that of high school graduates.

The GED Tests certify the attainment of subject matter knowledge and skills associated with high school completion. The GED credential reflects the attainment of academic skills and literacy proficiencies widely viewed as necessary for social and economic advancement and for exercising the rights and responsibilities of citizenship.

The GED Tests were first developed in 1942 to provide returning World War II veterans who had not earned a high school diploma before entering military service with an opportunity to earn a high school credential. The purpose of the GED Tests, essentially unchanged for more than 50 years, is to measure the academic skills and knowledge developed in a four-year program of high school education in the core content areas of United States and Canadian high school curricula. Recognized nationwide in the United States and in Canada by employers and institutions of higher learning, the GED program has served as a bridge to education and employment opportunities for millions of adults since 1942. An estimated 12.6 million people have earned high school equivalency diplomas since the program began. In 1996, more than 750,000 adults completed the GED test battery and more than 520,000 adults obtained high school credentials based on the tests. About one in seven high school diplomas issued in the United States each year is based on the GED Tests.

A program of the American Council on Education's Center for Adult Learning and Educational Credentials, the GED Testing Service develops the GED Tests and collects, produces, and disseminates research information on those who take, as well as those who pass, the GED Tests. In addition, the GED Testing Service contracts with nearly 3,500 Official GED Testing Centers in the United States, Canada, and overseas to provide test materials and to monitor services to examinees. The GED testing program is jointly administered by the GED Testing Service of the American Council on Education and each participating state, provincial, or territorial department or ministry of education.

The real story of the GED Testing Service, however, is in the people it serves—the individuals who take the tests to fulfill their goals and aspirations. For these individuals, the GED Tests truly represent a second opportunity. As you read this report you will find that those who take the GED Tests are a richly diverse group. Some have recently left school. Others have been out of school for several years. While most take the tests to qualify for further education, others hope that passing the GED Tests will encourage their children or their grandchildren to stay in school.

Many who take the GED Tests are preparing to enter a community college or four-year university. In fact, about one in twenty first-year college students each year is a GED graduate. GED graduates have become successful office workers, mechanics, college professors, military leaders, business people, writers, and artists.

The Center for Adult Learning and Educational Credentials
Susan Porter Robinson, Interim Director

FOUNDED IN 1942, THE CENTER FOR ADULT LEARNING AND EDUCATIONAL Credentials pioneered the evaluation of education and training attained outside the classroom. For 55 years, the Center has championed the concept of lifelong learning through its three main programming activities: high school credentialing, college credit recommendations, and educational recordkeeping.

High School Credentialing

Many adults who dropped out of high school have later acquired a comparable level of learning while on the job or at home. In an effort to help these adults earn a high school credential, the Center offers the Tests of General Educational Development (GED). The GED Tests are a battery of examinations that measure the general academic skills and knowledge usually acquired in a four-year high school program of study.

Literacy skills and educational attainment are strongly related. Thus, improving literacy skills may play an important role in narrowing the college enrollment and completion gaps between whites and people of color.

College Credit Recommendations

In step with its commitment to lifelong learning, the Center administers three programs that recommend academic credit for job-related education. The ACE/PONSI Program recommends college credit for workplace training offered by business and industry, labor unions, associations, and government agencies. Its counterpart for the armed services, the Military Evaluations Program, helps thousands of servicemembers and veterans earn credit for the college-level learning they've acquired while on active duty. Likewise, the Credit by Examination Program recommends college credit for testing and certification programs offered by national organizations.

Educational Recordkeeping

To keep track of these college credit recommendations and other training, the Center offers three computerized recordkeeping services. The Registry of Credit Recommendations offers adults a computerized record of their credit recommendations, including those made by the ACE/PONSI and Credit by Examination programs. The National Registry of Training Programs provides a transcript service for adults who are pursuing continuing education units (CEUs) for professional development, career advancement, or state licensing requirements. Lastly, the Army/ACE Registry Transcript System provides enlisted soldiers and National Guard members with an individualized record of their military educational experiences. Taken together, these transcripting systems help college and other officials recognize workplace learning along with the responsibilities and skills registry participants gained while on the job.

The American Council on Education
Stanley O. Ikenberry, President

THE AMERICAN COUNCIL ON EDUCATION (ACE), FOUNDED in 1918, is the nation's umbrella higher education association. ACE is dedicated to the belief that equal educational opportunity and a strong higher education system are essential cornerstones of a democratic society. Its approximately 1,800 members include accredited, degree-granting colleges and universities from all sectors of higher education and other education and education-related organizations. ACE is a forum for the discussion of major issues relating to higher education and its potential to contribute to the quality of American life. ACE maintains both a domestic and an international agenda and seeks to advance the interests and goals of higher and adult education in a changing environment by providing leadership and advocacy on important issues, representing the views of the higher and adult education community to policy makers, and offering services to its members.

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Gathering the Data

THE COLLECTION OF DATA FOR THE GED ANNUAL STATISTICAL REPORT IS A joint responsibility of GED Administrators, GED Chief Examiners, and the GED Testing Service (GEDTS). This data collection is international in scope, requiring the cooperation of educators and testing professionals throughout North America and abroad. Currently, nearly 3,500 GED Testing Centers are in operation in the 50 states, the District of Columbia, nine U.S. Territories, 11 participating Canadian provinces and territories, as well as on military bases in the U.S. and overseas, in correctional institutions, and in VA hospitals.

GED Photo by Eve Mora

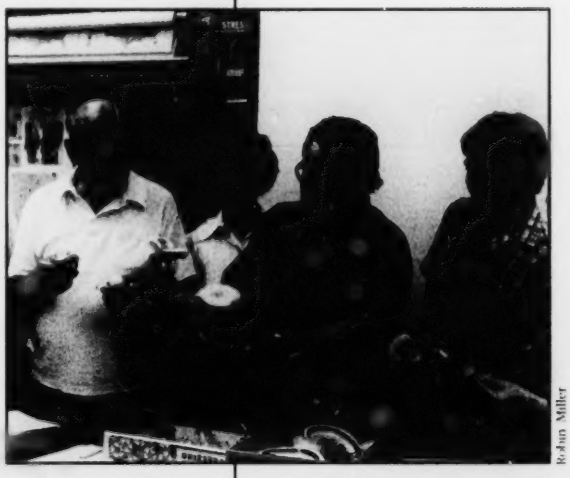
According to a national longitudinal study published in 1993, more than two in five GED graduates (43 percent) attended two- or four-year colleges after receiving their credential.

In the fall of 1996, the GEDTS research staff began to plan for the production of *Who Took the GED? The GED 1996 Statistical Report*. During the fall, data collection forms were sent to GED Administrators and GEDTS updated its computer programs to generate the statistical tables. In February 1997, GED Administrators sent their jurisdictional reports to GEDTS. GEDTS staff checked the data for accuracy and entered this information into our national database. In March, preliminary tables were prepared and sent to GED Administrators. GED Administrators reviewed their own jurisdiction's data for accuracy and returned Statistical Report Proof Forms to GEDTS with their final revisions. During March, GEDTS updated all statistical databases to reflect these revisions. In April and May, we generated and edited all statistical tables, prepared graphs, wrote text, and printed the final report.

The GED Annual Statistical Report presents tabulations of the numbers and percents of all persons who took and passed the GED Tests in a calendar year within each jurisdiction. Procedures for collecting these data can differ greatly from one jurisdiction to another. For example, in a calendar year, Texas, California, and Michigan each collects summary reports on thousands of examinees from hundreds of testing centers. In contrast, American Samoa, Guam, Newfoundland, and Prince Edward Island each collects data on hundreds of examinees from only one center. Furthermore, some jurisdictions rely on computerized scoring and recordkeeping, while others perform these tasks by hand.

Eve Mora

In reviewing the tables in *Who Took the GED? The GED 1996 Statistical Report*, it is useful to bear in mind that local conditions—such as extreme weather—as well as a jurisdiction's administrative policies, procedures, and education funding levels can influence the number of persons in a given year who take the GED Tests, complete the test battery, meet score requirements, and receive credentials. As we work to improve the quality, clarity, and usefulness of the data we collect, we encourage readers to write to us to suggest ways we can improve this report.



Robin Miller

How to Use This Report

WE ARE ALL USERS OF DATA AND CONSUMERS OF INFORMATION. TO MAKE informed educational and policy decisions in this time of rapid social and economic change, we require accurate and up-to-date information about our programs. The GED Testing Service has produced annual statistical reports profiling GED test-takers for every calendar year since 1958. In response to growing demands for more information about our program, we revised the GED Annual Statistical Report in 1993 to make it easier to read. The positive reactions of our readers to these revisions encourage us to continue improving the usefulness and readability of this report.

Throughout the report, the term GED test-taker refers to people who have taken at least one of the GED Tests. The term GED completer refers to people who have taken all five tests in the GED battery. The term GED graduate refers to people who have earned high school credentials based on passing all five tests in the GED battery. Since 1994, the Annual Statistical Report has included the number of persons completing the entire battery of five GED Tests. It is useful to note that about 13 percent of those who take the tests each year do not complete the entire battery. Thus, they may be counted again in subsequent years. GED test-takers must take all five tests in order to meet their jurisdiction's score requirements for a high school equivalency credential. The number of persons completing all five tests in the battery provides the basis for calculating the pass rate for the program.

Chris Cooper, University of Alabama

For readers new to the GED Annual Statistical Report, the data presented in Tables 1–13 provide summary information about those who take the GED Tests and the jurisdictions that administer those tests. Most tables summarize information for the U.S. and Territories, Canada, GED Testing Service, and Program Total. Readers can compare information across categories, jurisdictions, and even years. Each table is arranged to provide data within the following umbrella topics: percent changes from 1995–1996 (Table 1); number tested, number completing tests, and number meeting score requirements (Table 2); people tested and credentials issued by age groups (Tables 3–4); special test editions and testing accommodations (Tables 5–6); formal education and future plans (Tables 7–8); trends in participation and in credentialing (Tables 9 and 11); participation and credentialing rates (Table 10); and minimum score requirements and testing policies (Tables 12–13).

The names, addresses, and phone numbers of the GED Administrators and participating jurisdictions are included on pages 34–39. A list of selected publications and a GED publications order form follows on pages 40 and 41.

This report was developed with several audiences in mind. For those who rely on the content of the statistical tables for program status and trend information, the tables and graphs are designed to provide comparisons across categories, jurisdictions, and years. For those interested in using this report to learn about the purpose of the GED program and the diversity of those who take the GED Tests, photographs, expanded text, and informative captions are included.

1996 Statistical Report Highlights

Trends in GED test-taking

In 1996, 758,570 persons worldwide completed the GED battery, a nearly five percent rise over the previous year. (Table 1) The number completing the battery in 1996 represents the highest level since the program began collecting this information (Table 11). Other notable findings include:

Eve Motta

A recent national study found that males and females, adults in different age groups, and individuals with and without disabling conditions (that is, conditions that prevented them from participating fully in everyday activities) were equally likely to pass the GED Tests.

- In the U.S. and territories, the number of persons completing the GED battery increased by five percent. Ten U.S. jurisdictions reported increases of at least 15 percent: Mississippi (31 percent), District of Columbia (27 percent), Vermont (25 percent), Illinois (24 percent), Idaho (23 percent), North Dakota (18 percent), Texas (18 percent), Nevada (18 percent), Nebraska (16 percent), and Arizona (16 percent). Two U.S. territories also reported large increases: Virgin Islands (48 percent) and Micronesia (34 percent). (Table 1)

- In Canada, the number of persons completing the battery increased by nearly two percent and three jurisdictions reported increases of more than 15 percent: Northwest Territories (112 percent), Newfoundland (33 percent), and Prince Edward Island (19 percent). (Table 1)

- Only two jurisdictions worldwide reported decreases of 15 percent or more in the number completing the battery. These were: Alaska (16 percent) and Virginia (20 percent). (Table 1)

- Among those completing the battery, more than half a million (542,578), or 72 percent, met their jurisdiction's score requirements for the GED credential. (Table 2)

- More than half a million adults (524,482) earned high school equivalency credentials based on passing the GED Tests. This number surpasses the previous record in 1995 and brings to more than 12.6 million the estimated number of people who have received GED credentials since 1949. (Table 11)

Age, formal schooling, and academic goals

- More than three in four credentials (78 percent) issued worldwide are earned by persons under the age of 29. (Table 4)

- As in previous years, two in three (67 percent) examinees reported they completed grade 10 or higher before leaving formal schooling. For well over one in three (37 percent), the highest grade completed was grade 11 or higher. (Table 7)

- In 1996, 547,096 examinees reported they planned further education and training beyond the high school level. This number is the largest number planning further study in the program's history. (Table 8)

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Special editions and special testing accommodations

- The total number of persons who took a special edition of the GED Tests—audiocassette, braille, or large print—decreased by 3 percent in 1996, to 2,305. (Table 5)

- The number of accommodations to standard testing conditions for persons with documented disabilities—such as extended time, use of special reading or optical devices, alternative answer-recording methods, and other adaptations—increased by 14 percent over the number reported in 1995. (Table 6)

TABLE I

GED Participation and Credentials Issued: Percent Change[1] From 1995 to 1996

Jurisdiction	Completed Battery 1995	Completed Battery 1996	Percent Change 1995–96	Met Score Requirements 1995	Met Score Requirements 1996	Percent Change 1995–96	Credentials Issued 1995	Credentials Issued 1996	Percent Change 1995–96
Alabama	13,331	13,856	3.9	8,070	7,647	-5.2	8,070	7,647	-5.2
Alaska	2,744	2,320	-15.5	1,781	2,081	16.8	1,714	2,111	23.2
Arizona	14,554	16,838	15.7	11,212	10,736	-4.2	11,608	11,042	-4.9
Arkansas	9,112	9,420	3.4	7,540	7,635	1.3	7,570	7,686	1.5
California	48,339	49,118	1.6	38,669	38,727	0.1	39,268	39,211	-0.1
Colorado[2]	7,364	7,759	5.4	7,226	7,936	9.8	7,482	8,082	8.0
Connecticut	7,212	7,092	-1.7	4,993	4,655	-6.8	5,152	4,758	-7.6
Delaware	1,113	1,109	-0.4	784	763	-2.7	784	839	7.0
District of Columbia	1,578	2,010	27.4	793	851	7.3	794	851	7.2
Florida	48,327	49,649	2.7	35,449	36,760	3.7	37,057	38,318	3.4
Georgia	27,359	26,603	-2.8	19,607	16,952	-13.5	21,166	17,914	-15.4
Hawaii	1,972	1,961	-0.6	1,391	1,385	-0.4	1,313	1,361	3.7
Idaho	3,207	3,936	22.7	2,969	3,484	17.3	824	1,133	37.5
Illinois	26,070	32,236	23.7	16,842	20,619	22.4	16,842	8,011	-52.4
Indiana	15,256	17,402	14.1	12,044	13,363	11.0	12,044	13,363	11.0
Iowa	5,422	5,793	6.8	4,834	5,296	9.6	5,372	5,525	2.8
Kansas	7,016	7,610	8.5	5,859	6,164	5.2	5,899	6,517	10.5
Kentucky	16,825	14,878	-11.6	10,629	10,428	-1.9	10,959	10,738	-2.0
Louisiana	10,202	10,993	7.8	8,371	8,432	0.7	8,371	8,517	1.7
Maine	2,846	2,577	-9.5	2,472	2,427	-1.8	2,472	2,427	-1.8
Maryland	11,297	11,046	-2.2	5,891	5,600	-4.9	5,948	5,600	-5.9
Massachusetts	12,510	12,692	1.5	8,722	8,900	2.0	10,317	9,318	-9.7
Michigan	17,612	16,569	-5.9	10,897	12,063	10.7	13,277	14,124	6.4
Minnesota	7,794	7,583	-2.7	6,198	6,270	1.2	6,329	6,122	-3.3
Mississippi	11,566	15,190	31.3	7,121	8,822	23.9	7,121	8,822	23.9
Missouri	11,690	12,413	6.2	8,611	9,021	4.8	8,611	9,090	5.6
Montana	2,516	2,734	8.7	1,936	2,130	10.0	1,963	2,149	9.5
Nebraska	2,756	3,200	16.1	2,546	2,981	17.1	2,253	2,425	7.6
Nevada	4,495	5,283	17.5	3,520	4,034	14.6	3,596	4,223	17.4
New Hampshire	2,260	2,063	-8.7	1,912	1,717	-10.2	1,912	1,717	-10.2
New Jersey[3]	15,262[4]	15,691	2.8	9,204	8,371	-9.1	9,204	9,120	-0.9
New Mexico	7,431	8,032	8.1	5,156	5,965	15.7	5,082	4,657	-8.4
New York	65,932	65,379	-0.8	38,949	37,938	-2.6	39,266	38,112	-2.9
North Carolina	16,764	16,637	-0.8	14,090	14,091	0.0	14,090	14,091	0.0
North Dakota	869	1,029	18.4	788	897	13.8	860	982	14.2
Ohio	22,826	22,005	-3.6	18,039	17,291	-4.1	18,039	17,236	-4.5
Oklahoma	9,400	10,704	13.9	6,886	7,575	10.0	6,965	7,645	9.8
Oregon	8,910	8,705	-2.3	7,966	7,760	-2.6	7,966	7,889	-1.0
Pennsylvania	25,369	26,321	3.8	18,448	19,162	3.9	18,448	19,162	3.9
Rhode Island	3,037	3,447	13.5	2,368	2,458	3.8	2,507	2,626	4.7
South Carolina	7,986	8,237	3.1	5,421	5,320	-1.9	5,421	5,320	-1.9
South Dakota	1,351	1,539	13.9	1,118	1,246	11.4	1,149	1,261	9.7
Tennessee	18,812	20,707	10.1	12,296	13,522	10.0	12,430	13,613	9.5
Texas	73,821	86,824	17.6	56,112	65,263	16.3	57,794	62,409	8.0
Utah	4,656	5,207	11.8	3,768	4,133	9.7	3,065	4,242	38.4
Vermont	1,537	1,926	25.3	1,140	1,743	52.9	1,048	1,512	44.3
Virginia	15,183	12,094	-20.3	9,691	8,657	-10.7	9,822	8,774	-10.7
Washington	12,332	13,194	7.0	10,200	10,955	7.4	10,849	11,657	7.4
West Virginia	6,471	6,317	-2.4	4,463	4,434	-0.6	4,463	4,434	-0.6
Wisconsin	8,131	8,400	3.3	6,530	7,254	11.1	8,184	7,254	-11.4
Wyoming	1,213	1,268	4.5	1,073	1,137	6.0	1,073	1,175	9.5

1. Percent change is calculated by subtracting the number reported for 1995 from the number reported for 1996, then dividing the difference by the number reported for 1995.
2. For all tables in this report, the number taking the tests and the number of credentials issued in Colorado in 1996 are underreported from the actual number of persons tested and receiving credentials that year.
3. For all tables in this report, the 1996 statistics reported for New Jersey are based on preliminary and incomplete data.
4. This number was underreported for that year.
5. For all tables in this report, the number of persons counted for Micronesia includes data from The Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, Republic of the Marshall Islands, Republic of Palau, Kwajalein, and The Federated States of Micronesia (which include Pohnpei, Kosrae, Truk, Yap, and The State of Chuuk). Please note: Micronesia is an independent country.
6. For all tables in this report, the 1996 statistics for Ontario and for Canada include 185 persons who wrote the tests as part of a pilot study in the Province of Ontario in 1995. These individuals were not counted in the GED statistics for that year. Of these, 151 persons earned a high school credential issued by Ontario's Ministry of Education and Training. Ontario became a participating jurisdiction in 1996.
7. N/A=Not Available.
8. GEDTS categories (Tables 1–3; 5–8):

   U.S. Embassies: U.S. and Canadian citizens tested in U.S. embassies overseas. Persons in this category were previously reported in the category U.S. Civilians Overseas.

   Overseas: Non-Mil.: Military family members and U.S. federal government personnel tested on U.S. military bases overseas. Persons in this category were previously reported under U.S. Civilians Overseas.

   Overseas: Military: U.S. Military personnel tested on U.S. military bases overseas.

   CONUS Military: U.S. military personnel tested on military bases in the continental United States. This category may include some non-military personnel tested on a military base in the U.S.

TABLE 1

GED Participation and Credentials Issued: Percent Change[1] From 1995 to 1996

Jurisdiction	Completed Battery 1995	Completed Battery 1996	Percent Change 1995–96	Met Score Requirements 1995	Met Score Requirements 1996	Percent Change 1995–96	Credentials Issued 1995	Credentials Issued 1996	Percent Change 1995–96
American Samoa	31	33	6.5	23	20	-13.0	23	20	-13.0
Panama Canal Area	1	0	-100.0	1	0	-100.0	1	0	-100.0
Guam	248	234	-5.6	182	156	-14.3	175	157	-10.3
Micronesia[2]	250	336	34.4	131	103	-21.4	124	103	-16.9
Puerto Rico	15,304	16,590	8.4	9,046	11,053	22.2	9,046	11,053	22.2
Virgin Islands	191	283	48.2	114	152	33.3	119	152	27.7
US+Territories	**697,663**	**733,072**	**5.1**	**502,092**	**524,535**	**4.5**	**513,301**	**514,297**	**0.2**
Alberta	2,621	2,545	-2.9	1,863	1,768	-5.1	1,863	1,768	-5.1
British Columbia	4,058	3,613	-11.0	2,855	2,542	-11.0	2,855	2,542	-11.0
Manitoba	1,197	1,330	11.1	681	751	10.3	681	751	10.3
New Brunswick	1,539	1,516	-1.5	983	944	-4.0	983	944	-4.0
Newfoundland	502	666	32.7	319	385	20.7	319	385	20.7
Northwest Territories	61	129	111.5	42	56	33.3	42	56	33.3
Nova Scotia	3,188	2,753	-13.6	1,781	1,476	-17.1	1,781	1,476	-17.1
Ontario[4]	N/A[3]	731	N/A	N/A	594	N/A	N/A	594	N/A
Prince Edward Island	188	223	18.6	133	164	23.3	133	164	23.3
Saskatchewan	2,166	2,283	5.4	1,453	1,454	0.1	1,453	1,454	0.1
Yukon Territory	81	86	6.2	52	51	-1.9	52	51	-1.9
Canadian Military	108	85	-21.3	104	80	-23.1			
Canada[4]	**15,709**	**15,960**	**1.6**	**10,266**	**10,265**	**-0.0**	**10,162**	**10,185**	**0.2**
Federal Corr. Inst.	6,151	5,884	-4.3	5,194	4,849	-6.6			
Michigan Prisons	1,606[4]	2,412	N/A	1,333	1,846	38.5			
US Embassies[6]	N/A	0	N/A	N/A	0	N/A			
Overseas: Non-Mil.[5]	N/A	387	N/A	N/A	318	N/A			
Overseas: Military[6]	199	165	-17.1	195	150	-23.1			
CONUS Military[6]	822	674	-18.0	718	602	-16.2			
VA Hospitals	116	16	-86.2	89	13	-85.4			
GEDTS	**10,527**	**9,538**	**-9.4**	**8,579**	**7,778**	**-9.3**			
Program Total	**723,899**	**758,570**	**4.8**	**520,937**	**542,578**	**4.2**	**523,463**	**524,482**	**0.2**

★ In 1996, 758,570 adults worldwide completed the GED battery, nearly 5 percent more than in the previous year.

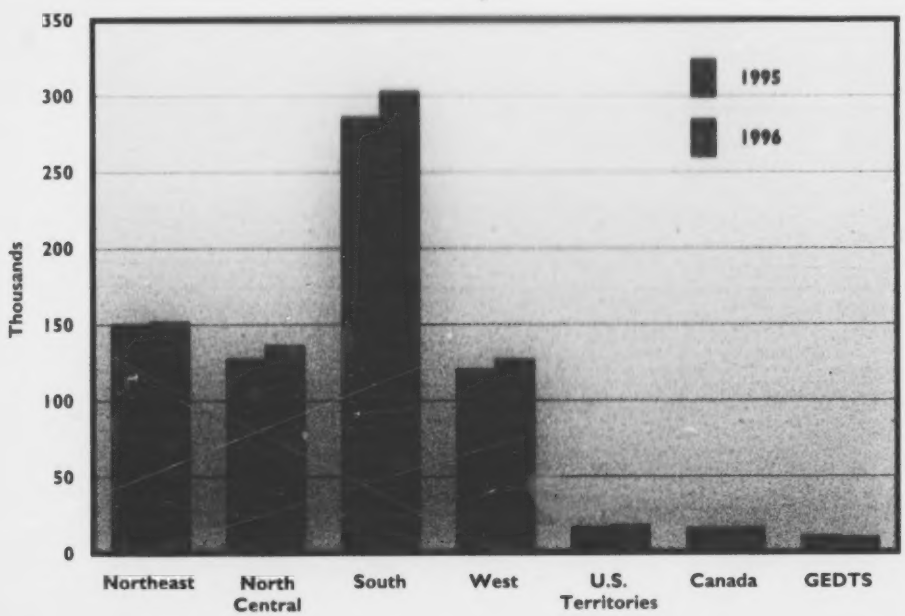


FIGURE 1

Number of People Who Completed the GED Test Batteries in 1995 and 1996, by Region

Source: GED Testing Service, American Council on Education

TABLE 2
Testing Volumes

Jurisdiction	Total Number Tested	Took Part of Battery	Completed Battery in 1996	Completed Battery Retested in 1996	Total Number Completed[1]	Met Score Requirements Number	Met Score Requirements Percent[2]
Alabama	13,976	120	10,935	2,921	13,856	7,647	55.2
Alaska	3,214	894	2,178	142	2,320	2,081	89.7
Arizona	17,842	1,004	15,572	1,266	16,838	10,736	63.8
Arkansas	9,420	0	8,324	1,096	9,420	7,635	81.1
California	61,820	12,702	44,967	4,151	49,118	38,727	78.8
Colorado[3]	12,383	4,624	1,810	5,949	7,759	7,936	N/A[4]
Connecticut	7,541	449	5,778	1,314	7,092	4,655	65.6
Delaware	1,124	15	894	215	1,109	763	68.8
District of Columbia	2,010	0	1,750	260	2,010	851	42.3
Florida	51,013[5]	1,364	49,613	36	49,649	36,760	74.0
Georgia	32,477[5]	5,874	21,826	4,777	26,603	16,952	63.7
Hawaii	2,093	132	1,642	319	1,961	1,385	70.6
Idaho	5,666	1,730	3,709	227	3,936	3,484	88.5
Illinois	39,076	6,840	26,764	5,472	32,236	20,619	64.0
Indiana	17,619	217	15,632	1,770	17,402	13,363	76.8
Iowa	8,566	2,773	5,148	645	5,793	5,296	91.4
Kansas	9,690	2,080	6,549	1,061	7,610	6,164	81.0
Kentucky	16,365	1,487	10,593	4,285	14,878	10,428	70.1
Louisiana	11,064	71	9,697	1,296	10,993	8,432	76.7
Maine	3,009	432	2,577	0	2,577	2,427	94.2
Maryland	11,456	410	7,477	3,569	11,046	5,600	50.7
Massachusetts	14,498	1,806	10,306	2,386	12,692	8,900	70.1
Michigan	22,566	5,997	14,104	2,465	16,569	12,063	72.8
Minnesota	10,787	3,204	6,874	709	7,583	6,270	82.7
Mississippi	15,798	608	9,408	5,782	15,190	8,822	58.1
Missouri	12,591	178	11,327	1,086	12,413	9,021	72.7
Montana	3,249	515	2,393	341	2,734	2,130	77.9
Nebraska	4,535	1,335	3,045	155	3,200	2,981	93.2
Nevada	5,402	119	4,653	630	5,283	4,034	76.4
New Hampshire	2,341	278	1,843	220	2,063	1,717	83.2
New Jersey[6]	16,999	1,308	11,453	4,238	15,691	8,371	53.3
New Mexico	9,857	1,825	6,657	1,375	8,032	5,965	74.3
New York	67,436	2,057	48,623	16,756	65,379	37,938	58.0
North Carolina	20,116	3,479	14,476	2,161	16,637	14,091	84.7
North Dakota	1,625	596	952	77	1,029	897	87.2
Ohio	22,357	352	19,043	2,962	22,005	17,291	78.6
Oklahoma	10,786	82	9,594	1,110	10,704	7,575	70.8
Oregon	11,648	2,943	8,176	529	8,705	7,760	89.1
Pennsylvania	28,966	2,645	21,794	4,527	26,321	19,162	72.8
Rhode Island	5,205	1,758	2,866	581	3,447	2,458	71.3
South Carolina	8,319	82	7,019	1,218	8,237	5,320	64.6
South Dakota	2,521	982	1,394	145	1,539	1,246	81.0
Tennessee	21,110[5]	403	16,751	3,956	20,707	13,522	65.3
Texas	100,097[5]	13,273	78,427	8,397	86,824	65,263	75.2
Utah	5,579	372	4,148	1,059	5,207	4,133	79.4
Vermont	2,536	610	1,579	347	1,926	1,743	90.5
Virginia	14,423[5]	2,329	10,585	1,509	12,094	8,657	71.6
Washington	20,287	7,093	11,196	1,998	13,194	10,955	83.0
West Virginia	7,261	944	5,230	1,087	6,317	4,434	70.2
Wisconsin	15,564[5]	7,164	7,169	1,231	8,400	7,254	86.4
Wyoming	1,671	403	1,188	80	1,268	1,137	89.7

1. Examinees who completed all five tests in the GED battery, either for the first time in 1996 or by retesting from previous years.
2. This percentage is based on the number of examinees who met their jurisdiction's score requirements divided by the number completing the entire battery, either for the first time or by retesting from previous years.
3. For all tables in this report, the number taking the tests and the number of credentials issued in Colorado in 1996 are underreported from the actual number of persons receiving credentials that year.
4. N/A=Not Available.
5. This number includes high school students who participated in special pilot GED programs for in-school youth. In 1996, the American Council on Education (ACE) decided to discontinue in-school youth testing. These projects will be phased out by the year 2000.
6. For all tables in this report, the 1996 statistics reported for New Jersey are based on preliminary and incomplete data.
7. For all tables in this report, the number of persons counted for Canadian military were persons tested on military bases in Ontario and Quebec.

Jurisdiction	Total Number Tested	Took Part of Battery	Completed Battery in 1996	Retested in 1996	Total Number Completed	Met Score Requirements Number	Met Score Requirements Percent[2]
American Samoa	33	0	33	0	33	20	60.6
Panama Canal Area	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.0
Guam	237	3	193	41	234	156	66.7
Micronesia	378	42	149	187	336	103	30.7
Puerto Rico	17,088	498	12,288	4,302	16,590	11,053	66.6
Virgin Islands	283	0	159	124	283	152	53.7
US+Territories	**841,573**	**108,501**	**618,530**	**114,542**	**733,072**	**524,535**	**71.5**
Alberta	2,610	65	2,282	263	2,545	1,768	69.5
British Columbia	3,724	111	3,198	415	3,613	2,542	70.4
Manitoba	1,394	64	1,055	275	1,330	751	56.5
New Brunswick	1,544	28	1,191	325	1,516	944	62.3
Newfoundland	717	51	638	28	666	385	57.8
Northwest Territories	129	0	105	24	129	56	43.4
Nova Scotia	2,807	54	2,220	533	2,753	1,476	53.6
Ontario	742	11	724	7	731	594	81.3
Prince Edward Island	224	1	211	12	223	164	73.5
Saskatchewan	2,374	91	1,890	393	2,283	1,454	63.7
Yukon Territory	88	2	77	9	86	51	59.3
Canadian Military[1]	85	0	83	2	85	80	94.1
Canada	**16,438**	**478**	**13,674**	**2,286**	**15,960**	**10,265**	**64.3**
Federal Corr. Inst.	5,964	80	5,261	623	5,884	4,849	82.4
Michigan Prisons	2,549	137	2,002	410	2,412	1,846	76.5
US Embassies	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.0
Overseas: Non-Mil.	394	7	361	26	387	318	82.2
Overseas: Military	167	2	157	8	165	150	90.9
CONUS Military	698	24	632	42	674	602	89.3
VA Hospitals	19	3	16	0	16	13	81.3
GEDTS	**9,791**	**253**	**8,429**	**1,109**	**9,538**	**7,778**	**81.5**
Program Total	**867,802**	**109,232**	**640,633**	**117,937**	**758,570**	**542,578**	**71.5**

TABLE 2
Testing Volumes

★ More than half a million (542,578) people met their jurisdiction's score requirements for passing the GED. This number represents about 72 percent of those completing all five tests.

★ In addition to those who completed all five tests, 109,232 completed part of the battery in 1996 and may be eligible for a credential in subsequent years.

★ In 1996, Texas became the first jurisdiction to test over 100,000 persons in a single calendar year.

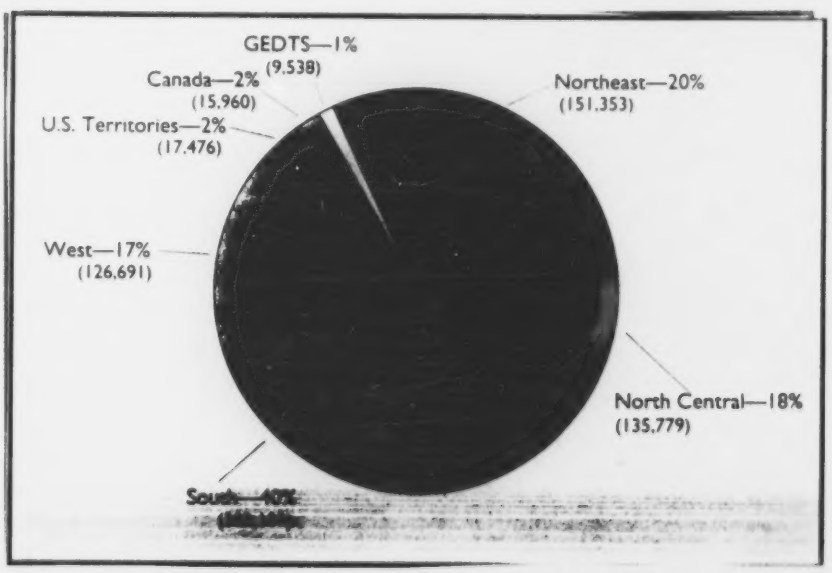


FIGURE 2
Percent (and Number) of People Who Completed the GED Tests in 1996, by Region

Source: GED Testing Service, American Council on Education

TABLE 3

Number of People Tested and Percents by Age Group

Jurisdiction	Number Tested	AGE GROUPS -16	17	18	19	20-24	25-29	30-34	35-39	40-49	50-59	60+	Average Age
Alabama	13,976	0.6	13.3	17.7	11.7	23.6	12.0	7.8	5.3	5.5	2.1	0.4	24.4
Alaska	3,214	8.0	14.2	15.6	11.0	22.0	8.7	8.4	6.9	4.3	0.9	0.2	23.4
Arizona	17,842	4.5	11.1	14.0	10.0	25.6	13.6	9.1	5.8	4.7	1.3	0.2	24.2
Arkansas	9,420	9.4	18.6	14.9	8.6	19.1	9.4	6.9	5.2	5.2	2.1	0.6	23.6
California	61,820	0.0	7.3	16.3	10.9	24.6	15.7	11.1	7.2	5.3	1.3	0.3	25.3
Colorado	12,383	1.5	21.7	17.4	10.8	21.8	10.3	6.7	4.9	3.6	1.0	0.3	22.8
Connecticut	7,541	0.3	6.3	11.6	11.3	25.4	15.7	11.5	8.3	7.3	2.1	0.3	26.4
Delaware	1,124	3.9	7.9	12.4	12.3	27.9	13.4	9.6	7.1	3.5	1.4	0.6	24.6
District of Col.	2,010	2.2	5.9	12.1	9.5	30.0	13.5	9.6	8.2	6.9	1.7	0.4	25.8
Florida	51,013	7.1	13.7	13.0	12.9	22.7	11.5	7.1	5.0	5.0	1.6	0.5	23.7
Georgia	32,477	2.6	7.6	16.5	12.3	23.8	12.4	9.2	6.5	6.1	2.3	0.7	25.2
Hawaii	2,093	0.1	14.7	20.6	12.9	22.7	11.5	7.6	4.5	3.7	1.2	0.3	23.3
Idaho	5,666	9.8	15.9	15.0	9.3	21.5	9.9	6.9	5.7	3.9	1.6	0.4	23.2
Illinois	39,076	0.4	5.2	13.1	13.3	29.4	13.7	9.0	6.8	6.3	2.0	0.6	25.5
Indiana	17,619	0.0	6.0	14.3	15.3	29.9	12.1	7.4	6.3	5.9	2.2	0.6	25.0
Iowa	8,566	1.8	15.4	14.4	11.4	25.2	11.0	8.7	5.6	4.4	1.8	0.4	24.1
Kansas	9,690	7.2	14.1	17.4	10.7	21.9	10.1	7.3	5.2	4.4	1.2	0.6	23.3
Kentucky	16,365	1.8	6.8	11.5	11.6	26.0	12.7	9.5	7.5	8.5	3.2	0.8	26.6
Louisiana	11,064	2.2	22.7	16.5	10.9	21.1	9.8	6.4	4.9	3.8	1.4	0.3	22.9
Maine	3,009	0.0	9.8	17.0	12.0	23.3	12.1	8.6	7.3	6.2	2.9	0.8	25.6
Maryland	11,456	1.6	9.8	13.3	11.2	24.3	14.8	9.5	6.2	6.2	2.6	0.4	25.4
Massachusetts	14,498	2.3	7.5	11.9	11.0	25.4	15.4	11.1	6.8	6.2	2.0	0.4	25.7
Michigan	22,566	1.5	5.3	17.5	15.2	28.1	12.1	8.0	6.0	4.3	1.6	0.4	24.3
Minnesota	10,787	0.2	7.2	11.7	17.6	31.0	13.1	8.1	5.7	3.6	1.3	0.5	24.2
Mississippi	15,798	1.8	16.3	16.8	12.9	22.0	9.5	6.7	5.7	5.7	2.0	0.5	24.0
Missouri	12,591	5.8	12.3	14.6	10.4	23.6	10.7	7.8	6.6	5.9	1.8	0.5	24.4
Montana	3,249	1.1	18.0	16.1	15.2	24.6	7.8	6.8	4.5	4.0	1.4	0.5	23.1
Nebraska	4,535	3.7	12.0	18.3	14.3	24.1	9.7	6.6	4.9	4.7	1.4	0.4	23.4
Nevada	5,402	0.0	19.1	16.1	11.4	20.6	11.2	8.7	5.8	4.3	2.0	0.7	24.1
New Hampshire	2,341	2.4	6.5	14.4	9.9	23.7	14.9	10.6	8.6	6.8	1.8	0.3	25.9
New Jersey	16,999	Not Reported											
New Mexico	9,857	0.8	16.6	18.6	11.2	21.6	10.5	7.0	6.3	5.3	1.8	0.5	24.0
New York	67,436	0.9	7.5	10.5	11.5	25.7	15.3	11.6	7.9	7.0	1.7	0.3	26.1
North Carolina	20,116	7.5	11.2	14.2	8.9	20.8	11.6	8.2	6.7	7.3	2.8	0.8	25.4
North Dakota	1,625	0.0	11.6	15.8	17.9	29.5	7.3	6.5	5.3	3.6	1.6	0.8	23.5
Ohio	22,357	2.6	7.1	11.4	12.6	25.8	13.8	9.5	7.4	7.0	2.2	0.6	25.8
Oklahoma	10,786	3.6	12.8	15.4	11.1	21.9	10.3	8.7	6.6	6.0	2.1	1.5	25.1
Oregon	11,648	4.2	13.6	15.9	12.2	22.6	11.0	7.6	6.3	4.2	1.3	1.1	23.9
Pennsylvania	28,966	6.9	13.1	12.8	8.4	21.7	12.0	9.0	6.4	6.3	2.6	0.9	25.2
Rhode Island	5,205	0.7	7.3	12.3	10.3	24.4	17.0	10.6	8.1	6.6	2.2	0.6	26.3
South Carolina	8,319	1.6	14.1	11.5	11.1	23.0	12.0	7.9	7.0	8.0	3.3	0.4	25.9
South Dakota	2,521	0.0	15.4	15.6	12.7	26.2	10.7	7.5	5.4	3.7	2.0	0.7	23.9
Tennessee	21,110	0.0	15.0	14.9	9.4	21.5	12.0	8.7	6.7	8.1	3.3	0.6	25.9
Texas	100,097	2.3	15.7	13.0	10.1	23.7	11.9	8.8	6.4	5.8	1.8	0.3	24.6
Utah	5,579	0.0	11.4	26.0	14.9	25.3	8.9	5.7	4.0	2.3	0.7	0.7	22.4
Vermont	2,536	4.6	12.3	18.1	12.4	26.8	9.8	6.9	3.3	3.7	1.7	0.4	23.1
Virginia	14,423	2.1	9.0	16.5	10.5	21.7	13.1	9.1	6.3	7.9	3.0	0.9	26.0
Washington	20,287	5.8	11.9	11.7	10.5	25.8	12.8	9.1	6.2	4.5	1.3	0.6	24.3
West Virginia	7,261	2.8	8.1	15.0	10.3	22.1	12.7	10.7	7.6	7.8	2.6	0.5	26.1
Wisconsin	15,564	0.0	14.9	15.1	12.2	28.9	11.6	6.7	5.1	3.8	1.3	0.3	23.6
Wyoming	1,671	0.7	7.9	18.6	13.6	25.0	11.5	8.0	7.1	4.8	2.3	0.5	24.7

1. Percentages reported for the categories US + Territories, Canada, GEDTS, and Program Total are calculated by dividing the total number of persons in the age group by the total number of persons in the category. Missing data are excluded from these statistics.

TABLE 3

Number of People Tested and Percents by Age Group

Jurisdiction	Number Tested	AGE GROUPS -16	17	18	19	20–24	25–29	30–34	35–39	40–49	50–59	60+	Average Age
American Samoa	33	0.0	0.0	6.1	18.2	54.5	9.1	6.1	3.0	3.0	0.0	0.0	22.7
Panama Canal Area	0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Guam	237	2.5	11.4	19.4	15.2	35.4	9.7	4.6	1.3	0.4	0.0	0.0	21.1
Micronesia	378	3.8	10.5	13.4	14.0	32.3	16.1	3.8	4.3	1.6	.0.3	0.0	22.3
Puerto Rico	17,088	0.0	0.0	26.0	17.5	26.9	10.7	7.3	5.5	4.4	1.4	0.2	23.9
Virgin Islands	283	0.7	4.6	7.1	6.7	31.4	14.8	13.4	10.2	6.4	4.2	0.4	27.8
US+Territories[1]	**841,573**	**2.5**	**11.0**	**14.4**	**11.6**	**24.5**	**12.6**	**8.8**	**6.4**	**5.7**	**1.9**	**0.5**	**24.8**
Alberta	2,610	0.2	1.1	5.1	7.8	30.1	14.8	14.5	12.5	11.5	2.5	0.0	28.9
British Columbia	3,724	0.0	0.0	0.2	9.6	31.3	16.7	14.0	12.2	13.0	2.4	0.4	29.5
Manitoba	1,394	0.0	0.0	0.2	2.7	27.0	17.5	16.6	15.9	15.1	4.7	0.4	31.9
New Brunswick	1,544	0.0	0.0	0.0	4.5	24.4	13.7	16.8	15.6	19.9	4.6	0.4	32.8
Newfoundland	717	0.0	0.0	0.3	11.7	40.9	14.9	10.3	7.8	11.9	1.7	0.4	27.7
Northwest Terr.	129	0.0	0.0	7.8	6.2	27.9	25.6	13.2	9.3	10.1	0.0	0.0	27.8
Nova Scotia	2,807	0.0	0.0	0.2	7.9	28.0	16.0	15.7	14.0	15.2	2.9	0.1	30.6
Ontario	742	0.0	0.0	0.3	4.3	26.2	19.8	16.6	13.0	14.0	5.4	0.4	31.5
Prince Edward Is.	224	0.0	0.9	2.3	4.5	27.9	16.2	9.9	17.1	14.4	6.3	0.5	31.6
Saskatchewan	2,374	0.0	0.1	1.2	6.8	27.6	18.1	15.4	13.7	13.9	3.0	0.2	30.4
Yukon Territory	88	1.1	1.1	4.5	11.4	28.4	19.3	17.0	4.5	6.8	5.7	0.0	28.1
Canadian Military	85	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	5.9	9.4	21.2	21.2	29.4	12.9	0.0	38.9
Canada[1]	**16,438**	**0.0**	**0.2**	**1.2**	**7.3**	**29.0**	**16.4**	**15.0**	**13.3**	**14.1**	**3.2**	**0.2**	**30.3**
Federal Corr. Inst.	5,964	0.0	0.0	0.2	1.4	19.7	22.8	18.2	14.3	16.8	5.2	1.4	33.2
Michigan Prisons	2,549	0.0	0.9	3.1	6.9	32.4	22.9	15.1	9.9	6.7	1.6	0.4	27.9
US Embassies	0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Overseas: Non-Mil.	394	1.8	7.4	16.5	9.6	29.2	18.0	7.9	7.1	1.0	0.8	0.8	23.8
Overseas: Military	167	0.6	0.6	4.8	4.8	55.7	23.4	6.0	3.0	0.6	0.6	0.0	23.7
CONUS Military	698	0.0	0.9	6.0	10.9	45.0	17.5	7.0	9.2	3.3	0.3	0.0	24.9
VA Hospitals	19	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	5.3	10.5	73.7	10.5	0.0	44.6
GEDTS[1]	**9,791**	**0.1**	**0.6**	**2.1**	**3.9**	**25.7**	**22.2**	**15.9**	**12.3**	**12.4**	**3.7**	**1.0**	**30.7**
Program Total[1]	**867,802**	**2.5**	**10.7**	**14.0**	**11.4**	**24.6**	**12.7**	**9.0**	**6.6**	**6.0**	**1.9**	**0.5**	**25.0**

★ Among those taking the GED Tests in 1996, more than three in five (61 percent) were age 20 or older.

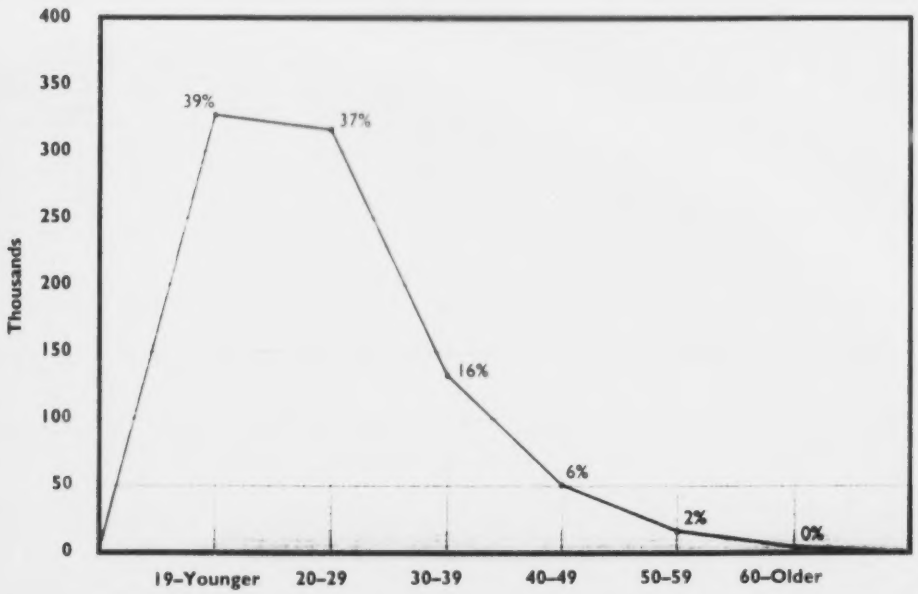


FIGURE 3

Number of People Who Took the GED Tests in 1996, by Age Group

Source: GED Testing Service, American Council on Education

TABLE 4

Number of Credentials[1] Issued and Percents by Age Group

Jurisdiction	Credentials Issued	AGE GROUPS –16	17	18	19	20–24	25–29	30–34	35–39	40–49	50–59	60+	Average Age
Alabama	7,647	0.4	6.8	17.5	15.4	27.0	12.1	7.5	4.8	5.6	2.2	0.6	24.6
Alaska	2,111	9.7	16.4	17.4	9.3	20.8	8.2	7.4	6.2	3.2	1.0	0.3	22.8
Arizona	11,042	4.5	11.3	14.7	10.4	25.1	13.5	8.9	5.4	4.9	1.1	0.3	24.1
Arkansas	7,686	10.0	19.3	15.3	8.3	18.6	9.1	6.8	4.9	5.0	2.2	0.5	23.4
California	39,211	0.0	8.0	16.7	10.3	24.1	16.0	11.0	7.1	5.3	1.3	0.3	25.2
Colorado	8,082	1.7	22.5	17.4	11.3	22.2	10.1	6.2	4.4	3.2	0.9	0.2	22.4
Connecticut	4,758	0.3	7.4	13.6	11.8	23.9	15.2	10.7	8.2	6.8	1.8	0.3	25.9
Delaware	839	1.2	5.8	10.8	13.7	31.6	15.3	8.7	5.4	5.5	1.5	0.5	24.9
District of Col.	851	2.0	6.1	12.2	9.1	30.5	13.5	9.4	8.2	6.9	1.7	0.4	25.8
Florida	38,318	7.7	14.1	13.1	13.0	21.8	12.1	6.5	4.9	5.0	1.5	0.4	23.6
Georgia	17,914	2.8	8.3	19.3	12.6	23.7	11.6	7.4	5.3	6.4	2.1	0.4	24.5
Hawaii	1,361	0.0	18.3	21.8	12.2	20.3	10.9	7.1	4.9	3.2	0.9	0.4	22.9
Idaho	1,133	4.3	10.4	12.9	10.9	26.9	12.4	8.7	6.5	4.6	1.6	0.7	24.5
Illinois	8,011	0.0	1.4	10.2	14.4	31.7	15.0	9.8	7.6	7.1	1.7	0.5	26.1
Indiana	13,363	0.0	6.8	15.2	15.6	28.7	12.2	7.2	6.0	5.6	2.2	0.4	24.8
Iowa	5,525	0.5	4.1	22.4	15.6	20.1	13.4	8.7	7.4	5.2	2.1	0.5	25.0
Kansas	6,517	2.0	10.7	17.0	15.3	27.0	10.5	6.5	5.3	4.1	1.3	0.3	23.5
Kentucky	10,738	0.8	6.3	11.3	12.6	27.7	13.0	9.4	7.2	8.1	3.0	0.8	26.4
Louisiana	8,517	2.4	24.3	17.2	10.9	20.8	9.2	6.2	4.5	3.2	1.1	0.2	22.4
Maine	2,427	0.0	10.4	17.8	11.7	22.3	11.6	8.8	7.5	6.2	3.0	0.7	25.5
Maryland	5,600	2.0	12.5	15.6	11.7	24.9	13.9	7.9	4.8	4.6	1.9	0.3	24.1
Massachusetts	9,318	0.7	5.3	11.8	13.4	28.9	15.2	9.8	6.7	5.9	1.9	0.4	25.5
Michigan	14,124	0.0	0.0	18.8	15.4	30.8	13.9	8.5	6.1	4.9	1.4	0.3	24.8
Minnesota	6,122	0.3	7.2	13.0	18.8	31.9	11.4	6.6	5.1	3.5	1.4	0.7	23.8
Mississippi	8,822	1.8	16.3	16.8	12.9	22.0	9.5	6.8	5.7	5.7	2.0	0.5	24.0
Missouri	9,090	6.3	12.9	15.2	10.7	23.1	10.3	7.6	6.3	5.7	1.6	0.4	24.1
Montana	2,149	1.7	20.3	17.8	15.0	23.6	6.8	5.4	3.8	4.0	1.1	0.5	22.4
Nebraska	2,425	0.0	0.5	23.6	17.6	28.1	9.3	7.1	5.1	6.2	1.9	0.5	24.5
Nevada	4,223	0.0	20.0	16.1	11.5	21.4	11.0	7.9	5.6	4.2	1.7	0.5	23.8
New Hampshire	1,717	3.0	7.3	15.4	10.5	23.1	14.6	9.1	8.2	6.7	2.0	0.2	25.5
New Jersey	9,120	Not Reported											
New Mexico	4,657	0.0	0.0	40.5	12.2	22.3	8.7	5.7	4.6	4.1	1.4	0.3	23.1
New York	38,112	1.2	9.3	12.2	12.2	25.5	14.8	10.4	6.8	5.9	1.4	0.2	25.2
North Carolina	14,091	8.1	12.0	15.2	9.3	20.9	11.3	7.3	6.2	6.5	2.4	0.7	24.7
North Dakota	982	0.0	14.8	19.1	15.0	27.0	6.9	6.2	5.0	3.8	1.7	0.5	23.2
Ohio	17,236	2.6	7.1	12.1	13.3	26.0	13.5	9.1	7.0	6.7	2.1	0.5	25.5
Oklahoma	7,645	3.7	12.6	15.4	11.2	21.9	10.5	8.7	6.6	6.0	2.1	1.5	25.1
Oregon	7,889	4.3	14.6	16.6	12.8	22.2	10.2	7.0	5.8	4.1	1.4	1.1	23.7
Pennsylvania[2]	19,162	7.5	14.4	13.9	8.8	21.1	11.1	8.3	5.8	5.7	2.5	0.8	24.6
Rhode Island	2,626	0.0	0.0	14.6	12.6	24.7	18.4	11.5	7.6	7.0	2.7	1.0	26.9
South Carolina	5,320	1.3	16.1	12.5	11.1	23.3	12.2	7.8	6.3	7.1	2.0	0.3	24.9
South Dakota	1,261	0.0	15.1	16.0	13.0	27.8	10.4	7.6	4.6	3.1	1.7	0.6	23.5
Tennessee	13,613	0.0	16.6	15.3	9.3	21.8	12.1	8.3	6.3	7.1	2.7	0.5	25.3
Texas	62,409	2.1	15.8	13.2	10.3	24.2	12.3	8.5	6.1	5.5	1.7	0.3	24.4
Utah	4,242	0.0	11.4	26.0	14.9	25.3	8.9	5.8	4.0	2.3	0.7	0.7	22.4
Vermont	1,512	11.0	17.7	18.2	11.0	20.2	6.4	5.1	4.2	3.7	1.8	0.3	22.2
Virginia	8,774	Not Reported											
Washington	11,657	5.7	12.1	12.4	12.2	26.5	12.0	7.7	5.4	4.4	1.2	0.4	23.8
West Virginia	4,434	1.9	9.1	16.5	11.2	22.6	12.1	9.0	7.2	7.5	2.3	0.5	25.6
Wisconsin	7,254	0.0	6.8	19.5	12.7	29.4	12.8	7.3	5.3	4.3	1.4	0.3	24.1
Wyoming	1,175	1.1	11.0	21.3	12.8	22.9	10.3	7.1	6.5	4.3	2.3	0.6	24.1

1. In many states, the issuance of credentials is a two-stage process. First, candidates must attain scores on the GED Tests that meet their jurisdiction's requirements for a high school credential (see Tables 12 and 13). Second, they must submit an application to their jurisdiction–in some cases with an additional fee–in order to receive their credentials. Issuance of credentials may be delayed or denied if the jurisdiction's administrative or other requirements are not met, or if the jurisdiction experiences severe backlogs in processing applications. Thus, persons who meet GED score requirements in a given year may not receive their high school credentials in the same year. And some may choose not to apply for them. Therefore, in a given calendar year, the number of credentials may not always equal the number of persons meeting the jurisdiction's score requirements.
2. In Pennsylvania, credentials reported for persons ages 16 and 17 are issued automatically when these individuals reach age 18.
3. Percentages reported for the categories US+Territories, Canada, and Program Total are calculated by dividing the total number of persons in the age group by the total number of persons in the category. Missing data are excluded from these statistics.
4. The number of credentials issued in Nova Scotia includes those awarded to persons who took and passed the tests on Canadian military bases in Ontario and Quebec.

TABLE 4

Number of Credentials[1] Issued and Percents by Age Group

Jurisdiction	Credentials Issued	AGE GROUPS –16	17	18	19	20–24	25–29	30–34	35–39	40–49	50–59	60+	Average Age
American Samoa	20	0.0	0.0	5.0	25.0	40.0	15.0	10.0	0.0	5.0	0.0	0.0	23.2
Panama Canal Area	0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Guam	157	3.8	9.6	22.9	15.9	35.0	8.9	3.2	0.6	0.0	0.0	0.0	20.6
Micronesia	103	1.9	10.7	12.6	10.7	33.0	21.4	3.9	3.9	1.9	0.0	0.0	22.7
Puerto Rico	11,053	0.0	0.0	24.6	16.7	28.4	11.1	7.4	5.6	4.5	1.5	0.2	24.0
Virgin Islands	152	0.0	7.9	9.9	8.6	28.3	14.5	10.5	9.9	4.6	5.3	0.7	27.2
US+Territories[1]	**514,297**	**2.6**	**11.0**	**15.4**	**12.0**	**24.5**	**12.5**	**8.3**	**6.0**	**5.4**	**1.7**	**0.4**	**24.5**
Alberta	1,768	0.0	1.3	5.1	7.5	30.9	14.8	14.3	12.7	11.0	2.3	0.1	28.8
British Columbia	2,542	0.0	0.0	0.2	9.8	31.2	17.0	13.0	12.1	14.0	2.4	0.4	29.6
Manitoba	751	Not Reported											
New Brunswick	944	0.0	0.0	0.0	5.3	23.5	13.7	17.1	15.8	19.9	4.4	0.4	32.8
Newfoundland	385	0.0	0.0	0.3	14.1	40.4	15.1	10.7	7.6	10.9	0.8	0.3	27.0
Northwest Terr.	56	0.0	0.0	10.7	7.1	25.0	23.2	10.7	10.7	12.5	0.0	0.0	28.1
Nova Scotia[1]	1,476	0.0	0.0	0.2	7.8	29.9	15.5	15.4	13.0	15.0	3.0	0.1	30.3
Ontario	594	0.0	0.0	0.3	3.9	27.3	19.9	16.2	13.3	13.7	4.9	0.5	31.3
Prince Edward Is.	164	0.0	1.2	1.2	6.7	28.7	13.4	11.0	15.2	16.5	5.5	0.6	31.5
Saskatchewan	1,454	0.0	0.1	1.1	7.0	28.1	17.4	15.1	13.3	14.4	3.2	0.2	30.5
Yukon Territory	51	2.0	2.0	5.9	13.7	29.4	15.7	11.8	3.9	9.8	5.9	0.0	27.9
Canada[1]	**10,185**	**0.0**	**0.3**	**1.3**	**7.9**	**29.7**	**16.2**	**14.4**	**12.8**	**14.1**	**2.9**	**0.3**	**30.0**
Program Total[1]	**524,482**	**2.6**	**10.8**	**15.1**	**12.0**	**24.6**	**12.5**	**8.4**	**6.1**	**5.6**	**1.8**	**0.4**	**24.6**

★ The average age of GED diploma recipients in the U.S. and Territories was 25. In Canada, the average age was 30.

★ More than three in four credentials (78 percent) issued worldwide are earned by persons under the age of 29.

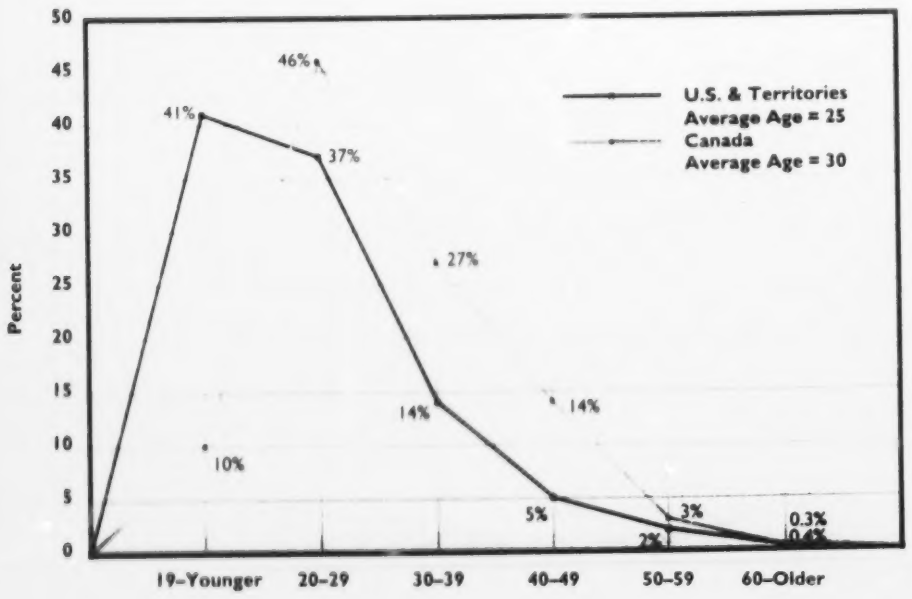


FIGURE 4

Percent of GED Credentials Issued in 1996, in U.S. and Territories and in Canada, by Age Group

Source: GED Testing Service, American Council on Education

TABLE 5
Number of People Tested, by Edition

Jurisdiction	Number Tested	LANGUAGE			SPECIAL EDITION		
		English	Spanish	French	Audio Cassette	Braille	Large Print
Alabama	13,976	13,942	8	0	18	0	8
Alaska	3,214	3,102	112	0	0	0	0
Arizona	17,842	16,726	593	1	21	0	501
Arkansas	9,420	9,317	90	1	4	0	8
California	61,820	58,826	2,969	1	9	9	6
Colorado	12,383	12,323	47	1	1	2	9
Connecticut	7,541	6,781	743	0	6	1	10
Delaware	1,124	1,098	22	0	1	1	2
District of Columbia	2,010	1,958	51	0	0	0	1
Florida	51,013	49,686	1,288	0	12	3	24
Georgia	32,477	32,355	78	7	7	1	29
Hawaii	2,093	2,093	0	0	0	0	0
Idaho	5,666	5,662	4	0	0	0	0
Illinois	39,076	37,020	1,994	0	20	0	42
Indiana	17,619	17,533	55	3	8	0	20
Iowa	8,566	8,516	35	1	1	0	13
Kansas	9,690	9,407	261	0	11	0	11
Kentucky	16,365	16,267	28	0	7	2	61
Louisiana	11,064	11,019	30	0	13	1	1
Maine	3,009	3,005	1	1	0	0	2
Maryland	11,456	11,367	59	0	17	0	13
Massachusetts	14,498	13,101	1,175	173	4	1	44
Michigan	22,566	22,370	172	0	5	0	19
Minnesota	10,787	10,654	117	0	13	1	2
Mississippi	15,798	15,734	17	0	21	6	20
Missouri	12,591	12,544	16	0	1	0	30
Montana	3,249	3,240	1	0	4	0	4
Nebraska	4,535	4,510	22	0	1	0	2
Nevada	5,402	5,386	15	0	0	0	1
New Hampshire	2,341	2,318	15	2	1	0	5
New Jersey	16,999	15,892	1,045	59	1	2	0
New Mexico	9,857	9,578	275	0	4	0	0
New York	67,436	60,025	6,448	837	105	1	20
North Carolina	20,116	20,055	20	0	21	0	20
North Dakota	1,625	1,602	9	1	9	0	4
Ohio	22,357	22,200	55	1	10	5	86
Oklahoma	10,786	10,708	71	0	4	1	2
Oregon	11,648	11,298	302	0	40	0	8
Pennsylvania	28,966	28,167	704	25	31	0	39
Rhode Island	5,205	4,775	420	10	0	0	0
South Carolina	8,319	8,231	41	0	8	0	39
South Dakota	2,521	2,476	1	0	3	0	41
Tennessee	21,110	20,961	74	3	29	5	38
Texas	100,097	96,559	3,400	0	11	1	126
Utah	5,579	5,575	3	0	1	0	0
Vermont	2,536	2,531	1	0	4	0	0
Virginia	14,423	14,146	121	1	15	0	140
Washington	20,287	19,684	542	1	24	0	36
West Virginia	7,261	7,217	3	0	13	1	27
Wisconsin	15,564	15,489	29	0	35	0	11
Wyoming	1,671	1,654	16	0	1	0	0

TABLE 5
Number of People Tested, by Edition

Jurisdiction	Number Tested	LANGUAGE			SPECIAL EDITION		
		English	Spanish	French	Audio Cassette	Braille	Large Print
American Samoa	33	33	0	0	0	0	0
Panama Canal Area	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Guam	237	237	0	0	0	0	0
Micronesia	378	378	0	0	0	0	0
Puerto Rico	17,088	864	16,218	0	6	0	0
Virgin Islands	283	275	8	0	0	0	0
US+Territories	**841,573**	**798,470**	**39,824**	**1,129**	**581**	**44**	**1,525**
Alberta	2,610	2,607	0	1	0	0	2
British Columbia	3,724	3,707	0	7	5	0	5
Manitoba	1,394	1,387	0	5	0	0	2
New Brunswick	1,544	1,319	0	169	3	0	53
Newfoundland	717	716	0	0	0	0	1
Northwest Territories	129	129	0	0	0	0	0
Nova Scotia	2,807	2,799	0	6	0	0	2
Ontario	742	740	0	0	0	0	2
Prince Edward Island	224	222	0	2	0	0	0
Saskatchewan	2,374	2,346	0	1	18	0	9
Yukon Territory	88	87	0	1	0	0	0
Canadian Military	85	81	0	4	0	0	0
Canada	**16,438**	**16,140**	**0**	**196**	**26**	**0**	**76**
Federal Corr. Inst.	5,964	4,368	1,592	1	0	0	3
Michigan Prisons	2,549	2,498	1	0	2	0	48
US Embassies	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Overseas: Non-Mil.	394	368	26	0	0	0	0
Overseas: Military	167	166	1	0	0	0	0
CONUS Military	698	697	1	0	0	0	0
VA Hospitals	19	19	0	0	0	0	0
GEDTS	**9,791**	**8,116**	**1,621**	**1**	**2**	**0**	**51**
Program Total	**867,802**	**822,726**	**41,445**	**1,326**	**609**	**44**	**1,652**

★ In 1996, the number of persons taking special editions of the GED Tests—audiocassette, braille, and large print—was 2,305, a nearly 3 percent decline from the previous year.

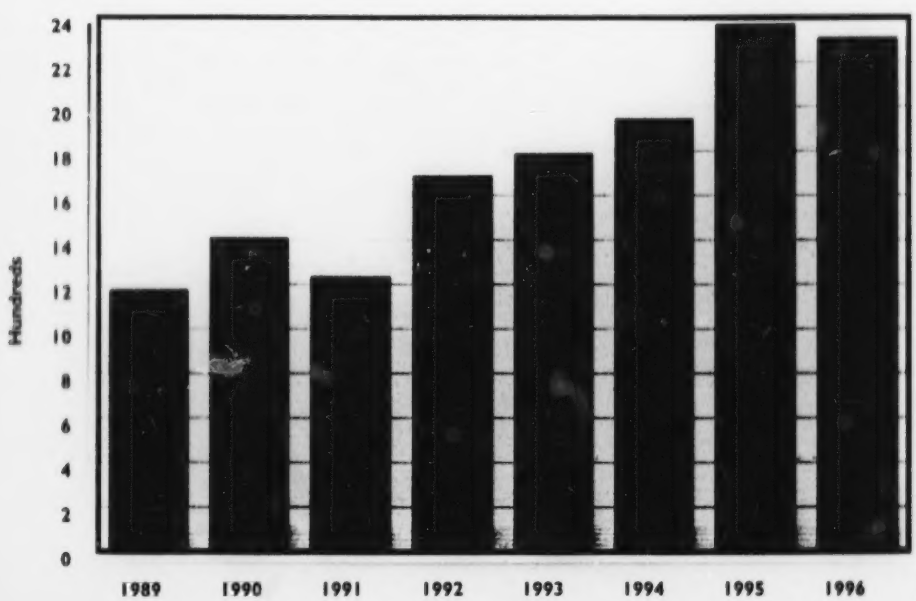


FIGURE 5
Number of People Who Took Special Editions of the GED Tests, 1989–1996

Note: Special editions include audiocassette, braille, and large print.

Source: GED Testing Service, American Council on Education

TABLE 6

Volume of Special Testing Accommodations for Candidates With Documented Disabilities

Jurisdiction	SPECIAL ACCOMMODATION[1] Time	Reading Device	Answer Marking	Other	Requests for SLD Accommodations[2]
Alabama	48	15	7	14	34
Alaska	7	0	0	1	3
Arizona	51	19	5	67	42
Arkansas	10	2	5	11	12
California	166	7	1	12	156[3]
Colorado	9	1	1	11	12
Connecticut	46	1	1	103	11
Delaware	3	1	2	4	3
District of Columbia	0	0	0	0	0
Florida	155	2	15	210	163
Georgia	55	4	13	6	27
Hawaii	0	0	0	0	1
Idaho	5	0	0	0	4
Illinois	76	16	17	40	35[3]
Indiana	38	6	31	71	44[3]
Iowa	40	1	2	2	37
Kansas	52	3	2	9	52
Kentucky	28	2	2	7	22
Louisiana	47	12	9	9	30
Maine	6	2	1	1	3
Maryland	58	1	2	43	46[3]
Massachusetts	33	0	4	35	39
Michigan	45	0	0	0	0
Minnesota	33	5	6	9	26
Mississippi	28	1	2	3	61
Missouri	21	6	6	8	26
Montana	6	3	2	3	8
Nebraska	24	1	2	5	20
Nevada	6	0	0	5	2
New Hampshire	7	0	1	2	8
New Jersey	32	0	2	20	54[3]
New Mexico	25	2	5	5	63
New York	670	2	54	426	1,290[3]
North Carolina	89	0	15	0	76
North Dakota	3	7	4	8	7
Ohio	37	0	10	21	25
Oklahoma	14	0	1	9	15
Oregon	157	8	33	242	163
Pennsylvania	41	1	5	6	53
Rhode Island	3	0	0	0	2
South Carolina	19	59	10	27	10
South Dakota	2	1	0	2	4
Tennessee	61	36	10	25	56
Texas	206	3	34	178	175
Utah	1	2	0	0	8
Vermont	13	1	0	4	6
Virginia	64	31	9	26	49
Washington	66	11	17	31	68[3]
West Virginia	30	17	2	8	45
Wisconsin	231	13	13	110	225[3]
Wyoming	6	0	2	25	19

1. Accommodations to standard testing conditions include: extended testing time, use of special reading or optical devices, alternative answer-recording methods, and miscellaneous other adaptations to standard testing conditions. An examinee may be granted a combination of these adaptations as described in the GED Examiner's Manual.
2. These numbers represent requests to GEDTS and to jurisdictions for special accommodations based on specific learning disabilities (SLD). For most jurisdictions, this number includes all requests for SLD accommodations—those approved as well as those denied. However, eight states reported only the number of approved requests. See footnote 3.
3. This number includes approved requests only.

Jurisdiction	SPECIAL ACCOMMODATION[1] Time	Reading Device	Answer Marking	Other	Requests for SLD Accommodations[2]
American Samoa	0	0	0	0	0
Panama Canal Area	0	0	0	0	0
Guam	0	0	0	0	0
Micronesia	0	0	0	0	0
Puerto Rico	57	2	4	2	0
Virgin Islands	0	0	0	0	0
US+Territories	**2,930**	**307**	**369**	**1,866**	**3,340**
Alberta	1	0	0	0	1
British Columbia	15	7	3	10	15
Manitoba	0	0	0	0	0
New Brunswick	5	1	2	13	2
Newfoundland	2	0	1	0	1
Northwest Territories	0	0	0	0	0
Nova Scotia	5	2	0	0	0
Ontario	0	0	0	0	2
Prince Edward Island	0	0	0	0	0
Saskatchewan	28	0	0	0	54
Yukon Territory	0	0	0	0	0
Canadian Military	0	0	0	0	0
Canada	**56**	**10**	**6**	**23**	**75**
Federal Corr. Inst.	0	0	0	0	5
Michigan Prisons	0	0	0	0	12
US Embassies	0	0	0	0	0
Overseas: Non-Mil.	0	0	0	0	0
Overseas: Military	0	0	0	0	0
CONUS Military	0	0	0	0	0
VA Hospitals	0	0	0	0	0
GEDTS	**0**	**0**	**0**	**0**	**17**
Program Total	**2,986**	**317**	**375**	**1,889**	**3,432**

TABLE 6

Volume of Special Testing Accommodations for Candidates With Documented Disabilities

★ In 1996, a total of 5,567 special accommodations to standard testing conditions—time, reading device, answer marking, other—were granted to persons with documented disabilities, a 14 percent increase over the previous year.

★ New York provided more testing accommodations (1,152) than did any other jurisdiction—21 percent of the total number of testing accommodations reported in 1996.

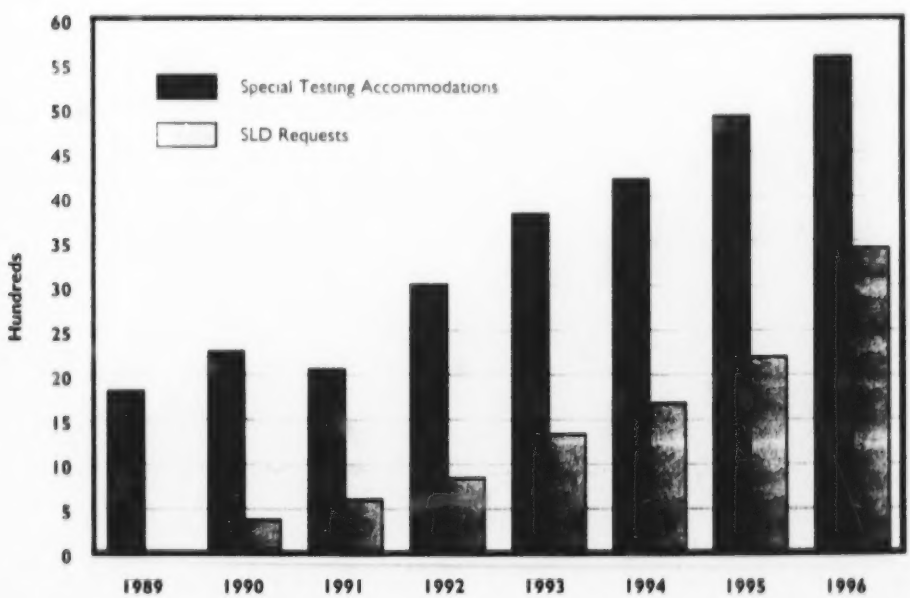


FIGURE 6

Number of Special Testing Accommodations (1989–1996) and Number of Persons Requesting SLD Accommodations (1990–1996)

Note: Special Testing Accommodations refers to the number of adaptations to standard testing conditions. SLD Requests refers to the number of persons requesting testing accommodations for specific learning disabilities (SLD).

Source: GED Testing Service, American Council on Education

TABLE 7
Highest Grade Completed

Jurisdiction	PERCENTAGE OF PEOPLE TESTED WHO COMPLETED GRADE							Average Grade
	6th	7th	8th	9th	10th	11th	12th	
Alabama	0.8	2.8	9.6	20.6	30.1	30.7	5.5	9.9
Alaska	1.8	1.3	8.0	18.4	32.7	34.0	3.9	10.0
Arizona	1.4	1.5	10.9	18.8	28.0	33.0	6.4	10.0
Arkansas	0.8	2.2	9.2	19.1	31.3	34.9	2.4	9.9
California	7.1	0.9	4.1	11.4	25.3	45.0	6.2	10.1
Colorado	0.8	1.3	7.0	18.6	32.8	36.0	3.6	10.0
Connecticut	1.1	1.4	10.4	22.4	30.1	30.3	4.2	9.9
Delaware	0.4	1.8	12.4	25.6	32.1	25.2	2.4	9.7
District of Columbia	1.0	2.3	8.5	19.1	30.6	32.8	5.6	10.0
Florida	0.7	1.6	8.0	19.6	29.0	34.6	6.4	10.0
Georgia	0.7	2.1	11.4	24.8	30.5	27.4	3.1	9.8
Hawaii	0.2	0.8	6.8	18.1	26.9	43.1	4.1	10.2
Idaho	1.4	1.9	8.5	21.7	30.8	31.5	4.2	9.9
Illinois	1.6	1.1	6.9	16.8	31.1	37.1	5.5	10.1
Indiana	0.2	1.0	7.8	19.2	33.4	35.4	3.0	10.0
Iowa	0.4	1.0	8.3	18.1	35.3	34.9	2.0	10.0
Kansas	1.0	1.0	8.0	20.7	31.4	34.6	3.3	10.0
Kentucky	0.7	2.4	13.1	23.4	30.7	28.0	1.7	9.7
Louisiana	1.2	3.1	12.0	23.7	30.6	27.8	1.6	9.7
Maine	0.6	1.5	10.2	21.5	29.5	28.3	8.3	10.0
Maryland	1.0	2.2	11.2	24.9	30.0	27.5	3.3	9.8
Massachusetts	1.8	4.6	11.1	21.1	28.5	29.9	2.9	9.7
Michigan	1.1	1.0	6.7	18.7	34.5	36.4	1.7	10.0
Minnesota	0.6	1.0	5.1	15.5	31.8	41.7	4.3	10.2
Mississippi	1.1	3.7	13.7	22.7	27.9	26.3	4.6	9.7
Missouri	0.5	1.2	8.7	20.0	35.0	31.3	3.3	9.9
Montana	0.5	1.2	10.0	20.7	30.5	34.2	3.0	9.9
Nebraska	1.0	0.9	6.6	20.7	31.9	34.7	4.1	10.0
Nevada	0.5	0.6	4.7	13.2	32.0	43.0	5.9	10.3
New Hampshire	0.5	2.3	13.5	21.8	29.4	29.6	2.8	9.8
New Jersey	0.9	1.3	7.6	17.9	30.3	34.0	8.0	10.1
New Mexico	1.7	1.7	9.1	21.8	30.8	32.4	2.6	9.9
New York	1.7	1.1	6.5	18.1	29.8	32.4	10.4	10.1
North Carolina	4.7	4.7	4.7	26.4	33.4	24.6	1.4	9.6
North Dakota	0.6	1.4	10.0	18.8	32.1	33.8	3.2	9.9
Ohio	1.3	0.9	8.7	19.1	30.8	36.2	3.0	10.0
Oklahoma	0.9	1.8	9.9	21.9	31.2	31.3	3.1	9.9
Oregon	0.9	1.3	8.7	20.2	32.0	33.0	3.9	10.0
Pennsylvania	1.7	1.5	8.9	21.5	32.1	31.0	3.3	9.9
Rhode Island	1.1	2.4	6.3	19.5	28.9	27.9	13.8	10.1
South Carolina	0.6	1.8	11.5	28.8	31.1	23.9	2.2	9.7
South Dakota	0.8	2.1	13.2	24.2	31.2	27.0	1.5	9.7
Tennessee	0.7	1.9	9.2	20.5	32.0	32.5	3.2	9.9
Texas	3.9	2.4	11.5	24.0	27.2	25.8	5.4	9.7
Utah	0.4	0.8	3.3	11.1	25.8	46.2	12.3	10.5
Vermont	0.6	1.4	9.3	21.5	31.6	31.8	3.8	9.9
Virginia	0.8	2.7	10.5	21.2	30.7	32.2	1.9	9.8
Washington	1.8	1.7	9.0	19.5	30.3	32.6	5.0	9.9
West Virginia	0.7	3.0	12.9	25.4	30.1	25.2	2.6	9.7
Wisconsin	1.6	0.5	5.0	15.9	30.5	42.1	4.4	10.2
Wyoming	1.4	0.6	6.7	16.8	30.5	40.7	3.4	10.1

TABLE 7
Highest Grade Completed

Jurisdiction	PERCENTAGE OF PEOPLE TESTED WHO COMPLETED GRADE							Average Grade
	6th	7th	8th	9th	10th	11th	12th	
American Samoa	0.0	0.0	0.0	6.7	16.7	53.3	23.3	10.9
Panama Canal Area	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Guam	0.0	0.0	2.1	8.9	28.7	53.6	6.8	10.5
Micronesia	4.8	10.2	9.9	18.5	24.2	26.3	5.9	9.5
Puerto Rico	1.2	4.2	24.8	33.8	20.2	13.5	2.3	9.2
Virgin Islands	0.7	1.4	9.9	12.7	19.8	25.8	29.7	10.5
US+Territories	**2.0**	**1.8**	**9.0**	**20.3**	**29.8**	**32.4**	**4.7**	**9.9**
Alberta	0.5	1.4	4.4	19.2	35.4	31.2	7.9	10.1
British Columbia	0.5	2.2	6.3	15.3	43.5	30.6	1.5	10.0
Manitoba	1.2	1.9	8.8	22.6	34.7	27.8	3.1	9.8
New Brunswick	1.7	4.6	12.2	16.9	34.4	22.4	7.7	9.8
Newfoundland	1.3	2.4	9.5	20.9	29.0	32.4	4.5	9.9
Northwest Territories	1.6	11.6	8.5	23.3	34.1	20.9	0.0	9.4
Nova Scotia	2.0	5.2	11.9	26.7	28.6	24.0	1.5	9.5
Ontario	0.3	0.3	3.4	8.6	29.1	46.5	11.8	10.5
Prince Edward Island	1.8	5.5	11.0	21.6	35.8	24.3	0.0	9.6
Saskatchewan	1.6	2.8	13.5	23.7	35.1	20.7	2.7	9.6
Yukon Territory	1.3	3.8	16.5	21.5	34.2	19.0	3.8	9.6
Canadian Military	0.0	1.3	3.8	13.9	34.2	44.3	2.5	10.2
Canada	**1.2**	**2.9**	**8.9**	**20.1**	**35.2**	**27.7**	**4.0**	**9.8**
Federal Corr. Inst.	6.5	3.3	9.2	18.3	23.2	28.2	11.3	9.8
Michigan Prisons	1.7	1.9	12.0	22.4	32.1	27.6	2.3	9.7
US Embassies	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Overseas: Non-Mil.	1.1	1.3	4.0	11.8	32.9	38.8	10.2	10.3
Overseas: Military	0.0	1.2	2.4	8.5	22.4	47.3	18.2	10.7
CONUS Military	0.0	0.4	2.0	6.5	22.3	51.9	16.9	10.7
VA Hospitals	0.0	0.0	15.8	5.3	31.6	42.1	5.3	10.2
GEDTS	**4.3**	**2.6**	**9.1**	**18.1**	**26.0**	**30.6**	**9.3**	**9.9**
Program Total	**2.0**	**1.9**	**9.0**	**20.3**	**29.8**	**32.3**	**4.7**	**9.9**

★ About two in three (67 percent) test-takers reported completing tenth grade or higher before leaving high school.

★ More than one in three (37 percent) reported completing eleventh grade or higher.

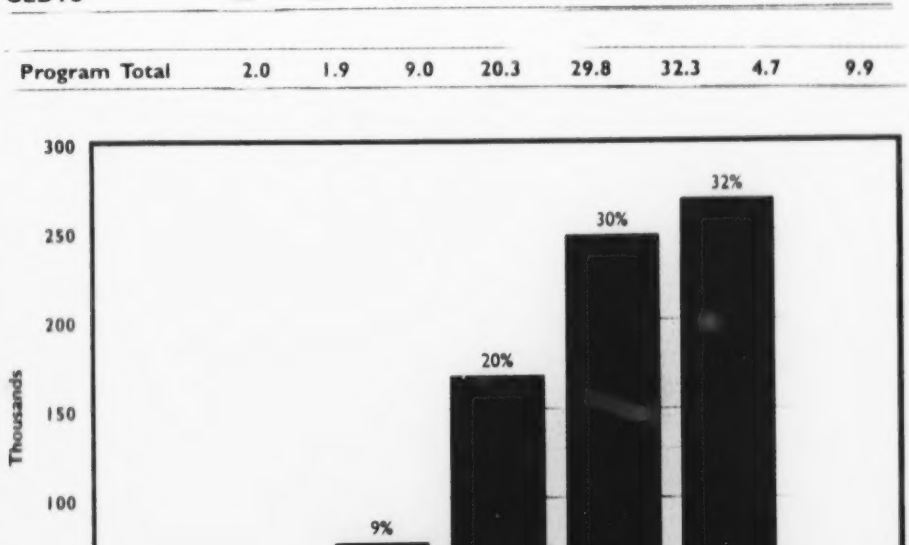


FIGURE 7
Number and Percent of People Who Took the GED Tests in 1996, by Highest Grade Completed

Source: GED Testing Service, American Council on Education

TABLE 8

Additional Data: Number of People Tested, GED Testing Centers, Active-Duty Military Personnel, and Reasons for Taking GED Tests

Jurisdiction	Number Tested	Number of GED Testing Centers	Active Duty Military Personnel	Reasons for Taking GED Tests: Education Number	Education Percent[1]	Employment Number	Employment Percent[1]
Alabama	13,976	54	12	8,466	60.6	4,233	30.3
Alaska	3,214	30	9	1,872	58.2	755	23.5
Arizona	17,842	42	1	12,148	68.1	6,188	34.7
Arkansas	9,420	62	4	7,107	75.4	2,974	31.6
California	61,820	216	79	36,362	58.8	N/A[2]	N/A
Colorado	12,383	36	10	8,809	71.1	N/A	N/A
Connecticut	7,541	25	21	2,477	32.8	1,952	25.9
Delaware	1,124	5	2	736	65.5	240	21.4
District of Columbia	2,010	1	8	1,586	78.9	698	34.7
Florida	51,013	72	343	40,887	80.2	7,687	15.1
Georgia	32,477	105	46	19,102	58.8	9,181	28.3
Hawaii	2,093	13	6	1,509	72.1	745	35.6
Idaho	5,666	9	4	4,028	71.1	1,787	31.5
Illinois	39,076	76	12	17,279	44.2	4,672	12.0
Indiana	17,619	80	0	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Iowa	8,566	15	0	5,092	59.4	1,582	18.5
Kansas	9,690	48	8	7,416	76.5	2,050	21.2
Kentucky	16,365	57	28	4,101	25.1	2,140	13.1
Louisiana	11,064	48	1	8,736	79.0	3,164	28.6
Maine	3,009	87	6	1,566	52.0	1,292	42.9
Maryland	11,456	21	17	10,110	88.3	1,179	10.3
Massachusetts	14,498	34	8	10,613	73.2	4,364	30.1
Michigan	22,566	153	5	13,240	58.7	6,709	29.7
Minnesota	10,787	65	4	7,973	73.9	3,161	29.3
Mississippi	15,798	77	41	10,768	68.2	5,995	37.9
Missouri	12,591	25	4	11,513	91.4	6,329	50.3
Montana	3,249	23	3	2,750	84.6	1,661	51.1
Nebraska	4,535	44	0	3,476	76.6	935	20.6
Nevada	5,402	21	6	4,106	76.0	1,748	32.4
New Hampshire	2,341	21	8	1,441	61.6	537	22.9
New Jersey	16,999	28	0	12,349	72.6	3,697	21.7
New Mexico	9,857	27	8	6,515	66.1	3,383	34.3
New York	67,436	98	0	37,013	54.9	12,566	18.6
North Carolina	20,116	83	37	14,192	70.6	1,208	6.0
North Dakota	1,625	18	0	852	52.4	540	33.2
Ohio	22,357	81	0	14,770	66.1	3,730	16.7
Oklahoma	10,786	49	13	8,560	79.4	4,222	39.1
Oregon	11,648	42	9	5,779	49.6	2,809	24.1
Pennsylvania	28,966	84	22	6,757	23.3	6,949	24.0
Rhode Island	5,205	11	1	3,948	75.9	520	10.0
South Carolina	8,319	1	2	6,673	80.2	N/A	N/A
South Dakota	2,521	38	1	1,593	63.2	917	36.4
Tennessee	21,110	38	6	12,161	57.6	6,695	31.7
Texas	100,097	218	2,015	80,072	80.0	38,907	38.9
Utah	5,579	22	8	3,773	67.6	1,387	24.9
Vermont	2,536	18	1	1,654	65.2	667	26.3
Virginia	14,423	62	30	10,777	74.7	6,590	45.7
Washington	20,287	60	37	14,128	69.6	4,678	23.1
West Virginia	7,261	67	2	3,708	51.1	3,028	41.7
Wisconsin	15,564	70	6	8,965	57.6	2,731	17.5
Wyoming	1,671	29	0	992	59.4	586	35.1

1. Examinees may report all reasons that apply. Thus, percents for Education and for Employment do not sum to 100.
2. N/A=Not Available.
3. Program total percents are calculated based on total numbers that exclude missing data.
4. The number of active-duty military personnel in Canada may be under-reported because some Canadian jurisdictions do not collect this information at the time of testing.

TABLE 8

Additional Data: Number of People Tested, GED Testing Centers, Active-Duty Military Personnel, and Reasons for Taking GED Tests

Jurisdiction	Number Tested	Number of GED Testing Centers	Active Duty Military Personnel	Reasons for Taking GED Tests: Education Number	Education Percent[1]	Employment Number	Employment Percent[1]
American Samoa	33	1	0	31	93.9	2	6.1
Panama Canal Area	0	0	0	0	0.0	0	0.0
Guam	237	1	0	162	68.4	62	26.2
Micronesia	378	2	1	280	74.1	83	22.0
Puerto Rico	17,088	9	0	9,411	55.1	7,635	44.7
Virgin Islands	283	2	0	246	86.9	28	9.9
US+Territories	**841,573**	**2,724**	**2,895**	**530,630**	**64.4[3]**	**197,578**	**26.6[3]**
Alberta	2,610	20	28	1,776	68.0	1,153	44.2
British Columbia	3,724	1	37	1,962	52.7	1,410	37.9
Manitoba	1,394	1	0	0	0.0	0	0.0
New Brunswick	1,544	2	55	974	63.1	228	14.8
Newfoundland	717	34	9	560	78.1	157	21.9
Northwest Territories	129	2	0	117	90.7	12	9.3
Nova Scotia	2,807	1	0	2,179	77.6	0	0.0
Ontario	742	2	0	0	0.0	0	0.0
Prince Edward Island	224	1	0	142	63.4	55	24.6
Saskatchewan	2,374	1	0	1,014	42.7	1,218	51.3
Yukon Territory	88	1	0	45	51.1	31	35.2
Canadian Military	85	8	85	57	67.1	29	34.1
Canada	**16,438**	**74**	**214[4]**	**8,826**	**61.7[3]**	**4,293**	**37.3[3]**
Federal Corr. Inst.	5,964	92	6	4,440	74.4	1,438	24.1
Michigan Prisons	2,549	38	1	2,193	86.0	988	38.8
US Embassies	0	37	0	0	0.0	0	0.0
Overseas: Non-Mil.	394	126	2	319	81.0	103	26.1
Overseas: Military	167	116	141	142	85.0	29	17.4
CONUS Military	698	280	554	529	75.8	164	23.5
VA Hospitals	19	6	0	17	89.5	9	47.4
GEDTS[4]	**9,791**	**695**	**704**	**7,640**	**78.0[3]**	**2,731**	**27.9[3]**
Program Total	**867,802**	**3,493**	**3,813**	**547,096**	**64.5[3]**	**204,602**	**26.8[3]**

- ★ In 1996, 547,096 examinees reported they planned further education and training beyond the high school level. This number is the largest number planning further study in the program's history.
- ★ Six jurisdictions reported large proportions of their examinees planned further education and training: American Samoa (94 percent), Missouri (91 percent), Northwest Territories (91 percent), Maryland (88 percent), Virgin Islands (87 percent), and Montana (85 percent).

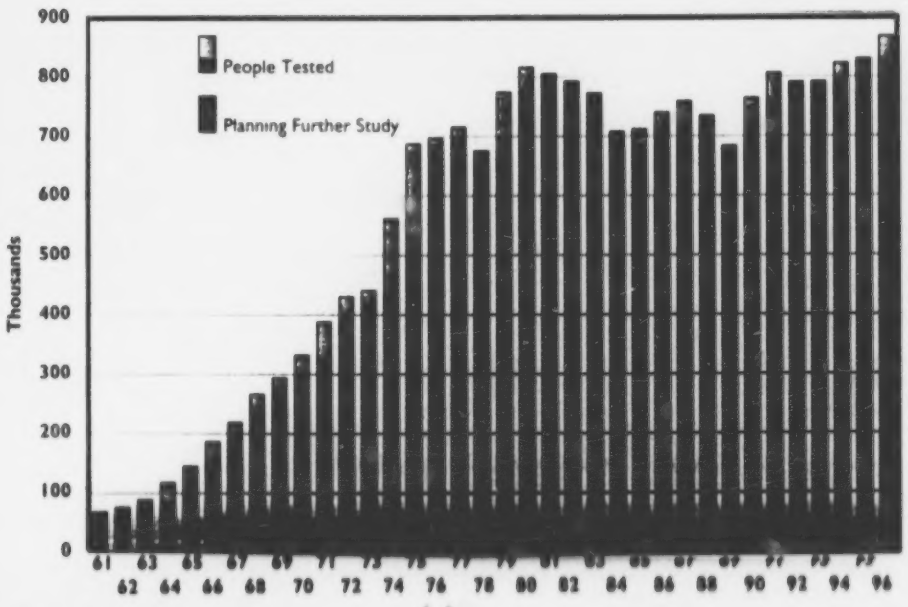


FIGURE 8

Number of GED Candidates Planning Further Study Compared With Total Tested, 1961–1996

Note: Number shown in figure is estimated from percent of total tested.

Source: GED Testing Service, American Council on Education

TABLE 9

Credentials Issued, 1986, 1992–1996; Percent Change, 1986–1996; and Cumulative Credentials Issued Since 1971

Jurisdiction	1986	1992	1993	1994	1995	1996	Percent Change 86–96	Cum. 71–96
Alabama	7,781	7,609	7,946	8,477	8,070	7,647	-1.7	238,562
Alaska	1,631	1,462	1,389	1,679	1,714	2,111	29.4	53,658
Arizona	7,852	9,774	9,799	10,619	11,608	11,042	40.6	195,412
Arkansas	7,147	7,630	6,945	6,794	7,570	7,686	7.5	151,078
California	12,000	37,289	38,825	41,187[1]	39,268	39,211	226.8	401,056
Colorado	7,229	6,649	6,923	6,987	7,482	8,082	11.8	174,721
Connecticut	4,690	5,055	4,887	4,693	5,152	4,758	1.4	111,258
Delaware	865	1,351	1,103	1,042	784	839	-3.0	22,570
District of Columbia	850	768	840	1,025	794	851	0.1	29,596
Florida	28,457	31,941	30,280	36,122	37,057	38,318	34.7	651,406
Georgia	12,864	16,111	17,894	21,200	21,166	17,914	39.3	326,982
Hawaii	1,464	1,383	1,376	1,389	1,313	1,361	-7.0	37,172
Idaho	895	1,037	1,031	787	824	1,133	26.6	23,527
Illinois	15,997	13,956	14,657	17,798	16,842	8,011	-49.9	378,323
Indiana	6,163	12,124	11,882	11,439	12,044	13,363	116.8	195,752
Iowa	4,925	5,764	5,061	5,525	5,372	5,525	12.2	122,666
Kansas	5,973	6,163	5,952	6,193	5,899	6,517	9.1	165,770
Kentucky	12,556	11,661	11,671	10,545	10,959	10,738	-14.5	280,921
Louisiana	10,200	7,402	7,959	8,292	8,371	8,517	-16.5	232,642
Maine	2,934	2,867	2,560	2,536	2,472	2,427	-17.3	65,972
Maryland	7,379	5,674	5,396	5,843	5,948	5,600	-24.1	170,935
Massachusetts	10,057	10,763	11,528	9,642	10,317	9,318	-7.3	231,010
Michigan	12,681	13,408	15,396	13,612	13,277	14,124	11.4	315,733
Minnesota	5,682	6,653	6,156	6,270	6,329	6,122	7.7	148,431
Mississippi	8,609	6,412	6,562	6,594	7,121	8,822	2.5	167,462
Missouri	8,354	8,771	7,760	8,098	8,611	9,090	8.8	209,404
Montana	1,737	1,794	1,857	2,042	1,963	2,149	23.7	51,151
Nebraska	2,811	2,655	1,907	2,188	2,253	2,425	-13.7	58,862
Nevada	2,228	3,494	3,439	3,704	3,596	4,223	89.5	57,791
New Hampshire	1,806	2,036	2,046	1,997	1,912	1,717	-4.9	45,801
New Jersey	10,684	8,944	9,888	9,438	9,204	9,120	-14.6	290,458
New Mexico	4,637	4,455	6,337	5,050	5,082	4,657	0.4	120,120
New York	38,532	28,950	38,120	36,789	39,266	38,112	-1.1	961,136
North Carolina	12,358	10,478	12,544	13,186	14,090	14,091	14.0	337,022
North Dakota	1,186	907	742	856	860	982	-17.2	25,305
Ohio	13,025	19,440	17,191	16,315	18,039	17,236	32.3	318,077
Oklahoma	6,733	7,119	6,664	6,882	6,965	7,645	13.5	151,700
Oregon	8,707	7,982	7,915	7,035	7,966	7,889	-9.4	178,107
Pennsylvania	20,073	20,312	17,556	17,941	18,448	19,162	-4.5	438,326
Rhode Island	2,852	2,473	2,852	1,827	2,507	2,626	-7.9	63,996
South Carolina	5,396	5,770	5,374	5,062	5,421	5,320	-1.4	113,613
South Dakota	1,461	1,097	1,043	1,072	1,149	1,261	-13.7	34,717
Tennessee	10,514	11,697	11,380	11,767	12,430	13,613	29.5	248,561
Texas	43,696	44,866	47,628	59,888	57,794	62,409	42.8	1,078,509
Utah	1,073	844	981	869	3,065	4,242	295.3	22,365
Vermont	1,167	1,230	1,374	1,186	1,048	1,512	29.6	30,846
Virginia	9,238	10,173	9,345	10,167	9,822	8,774	-5.0	242,123
Washington	8,387	9,980	10,430	11,091	10,849	11,657	39.0	229,642
West Virginia	5,309	4,456	4,437	4,124	4,463	4,434	-16.5	124,180
Wisconsin	8,011	4,590	4,725	5,944	8,184	7,254	-9.4	163,426
Wyoming	1,417	1,171	1,228	1,220	1,073	1,175	-17.1	31,749

1. This number has been revised since the report for that year.
2. N/A=Not Available.

Jurisdiction	1986	1992	1993	1994	1995	1996	Percent Change 86–96	Cum. 71–96
American Samoa	27	6	0	17	23	20	-25.9	603
Panama Canal Area	4	3	0	1	1	0	-100.0	201
Guam	111	0	0	161	175	157	41.4	3,133
Micronesia	71	3	183	205	124	103	45.1	1,236
Puerto Rico	10,268	7,859	6,880	6,299	9,046	11,053	7.6	175,813
Virgin Islands	107	101	115	161	119	152	42.1	3,262
US+Territories	**438,861**	**464,562**	**475,959**	**498,872**[1]	**513,301**	**514,297**	**17.2**	**10,703,850**
Alberta	2,112	2,808	2,354	1,912	1,863	1,768	-16.3	34,815
British Columbia	2,930	3,727	3,591	3,213	2,855	2,542	-13.2	78,387
Manitoba	1,276	1,168	1,130[1]	837	681	751	-41.1	38,349
New Brunswick	1,432	1,244	1,217	1,016	983	944	-34.1	23,661
Newfoundland	450	755	743	470	319	385	-14.4	15,667
Northwest Terr.	110	104	123	97	42	56	-49.1	2,008
Nova Scotia	1,573	2,498	2,428	2,483	1,781	1,476	-6.2	43,978
Ontario	N/A[1]	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	594	N/A	N/A
Prince Edward Is.	182	208	171	123	133	164	-9.9	5,698
Saskatchewan	2,324	2,130	1,677	1,512	1,453	1,454	-37.4	49,620
Yukon Territory	44	48	81	52	52	51	15.9	1,212
Canada	**12,433**	**14,690**	**13,515**[1]	**11,715**	**10,162**	**10,185**	**-18.1**	**293,989**
Program Total	**451,294**	**479,252**	**489,474**[1]	**510,587**[1]	**523,463**	**524,482**	**16.2**	**10,997,839**

TABLE 9

Credentials Issued, 1986, 1992–1996; Percent Change, 1986–1996; and Cumulative Credentials Issued Since 1971

- ★ The number of adults in the U.S. and Territories earning GED credentials has increased by 17 percent during the past decade. By contrast, the number of adults earning credentials in Canada declined by 18 percent during the same period.
- ★ Nearly 11 million adults (10,997,839) have earned GED credentials since 1971, when the program began reporting this information.
- ★ Since 1971, Texas has issued more than one million GED credentials.

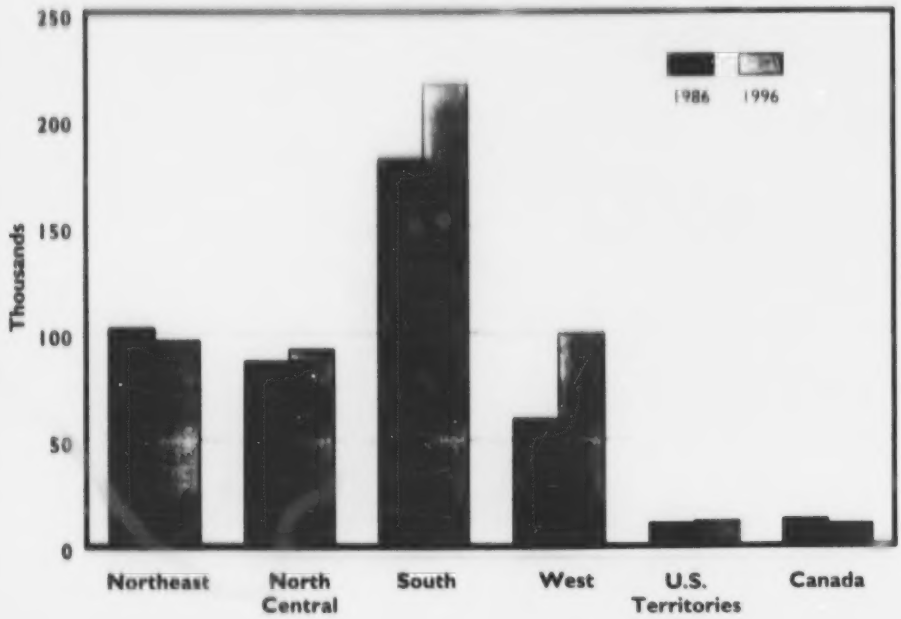


FIGURE 9

Changes in a Decade: Number of Credentials Issued in 1986 and in 1996, by Region

Source: GED Testing Service, American Council on Education

TABLE 10

Population of Adults Without High School Diplomas, GED Participation Rate, and GED Credentialing Rate, by Jurisdiction

Jurisdiction	Population of Adults Without Diplomas[1]	Number Completing Battery	Participation Rate (in percents)[2]	Number of Credentials Issued	Credentialing Rate (in percents)[3]
Alabama	936,269	13,856	1.5	7,647	0.8
Alaska	51,195	2,320	4.5	2,111	4.1
Arizona	579,369	16,838	2.9	11,042	1.9
Arkansas	549,931	9,420	1.7	7,686	1.4
California	5,327,621	49,118	0.9	39,211	0.7
Colorado	375,970	7,759	2.1	8,082	2.1
Connecticut	503,961	7,092	1.4	4,758	0.9
Delaware	107,443	1,109	1.0	839	0.8
District of Columbia	125,948	2,010	1.6	851	0.7
Florida	2,541,872	49,649	2.0	38,318	1.5
Georgia	1,329,996	26,603	2.0	17,914	1.3
Hawaii	152,820	1,961	1.3	1,361	0.9
Idaho	138,389	3,936	2.8	1,133	0.8
Illinois	1,937,684	32,236	1.7	8,011	0.4
Indiana	951,428	17,402	1.8	13,363	1.4
Iowa	380,196	5,793	1.5	5,525	1.5
Kansas	325,477	7,610	2.3	6,517	2.0
Kentucky	909,162	14,878	1.6	10,738	1.2
Louisiana	905,263	10,993	1.2	8,517	0.9
Maine	184,979	2,577	1.4	2,427	1.3
Maryland	754,722	11,046	1.5	5,600	0.7
Massachusetts	882,624	12,692	1.4	9,318	1.1
Michigan	1,515,421	16,569	1.1	14,124	0.9
Minnesota	529,532	7,583	1.4	6,122	1.2
Mississippi	610,713	15,190	2.5	8,822	1.4
Missouri	944,893	12,413	1.3	9,090	1.0
Montana	105,698	2,734	2.6	2,149	2.0
Nebraska	196,144	3,200	1.6	2,425	1.2
Nevada	195,739	5,283	2.7	4,223	2.2
New Hampshire	144,234	2,063	1.4	1,717	1.2
New Jersey	1,324,806	15,691	1.2	9,120	0.7
New Mexico	260,091	8,032	3.1	4,657	1.8
New York	3,301,373	65,379	2.0	38,112	1.2
North Carolina	1,416,966	16,637	1.2	14,091	1.0
North Dakota	97,028	1,029	1.1	982	1.0
Ohio	1,851,680	22,005	1.2	17,236	0.9
Oklahoma	560,140	10,704	1.9	7,645	1.4
Oregon	393,844	8,705	2.2	7,889	2.0
Pennsylvania	2,160,811	26,321	1.2	19,162	0.9
Rhode Island	203,614	3,447	1.7	2,626	1.3
South Carolina	763,897	8,237	1.1	5,320	0.7
South Dakota	106,575	1,539	1.4	1,261	1.2
Tennessee	1,144,588	20,707	1.8	13,613	1.2
Texas	3,299,572	86,824	2.6	62,409	1.9
Utah	160,799	5,207	3.2	4,242	2.6
Vermont	76,341	1,926	2.5	1,512	2.0
Virginia	1,099,302	12,094	1.1	8,774	0.8
Washington	583,563	13,194	2.3	11,657	2.0
West Virginia	432,738	6,317	1.5	4,434	1.0
Wisconsin	721,374	8,400	1.2	7,254	1.0
Wyoming	51,995	1,268	2.4	1,175	2.3

1. Population totals for the U.S. and its territories are based on 1990 U.S. Census data for persons ages 16 and older, out of school, without high school diplomas (unpublished document tabulated for the U.S. Department of Education by the U.S. Bureau of the Census, 1993). The numbers are estimates from a 20 percent sample of the U.S. population and are derived from the Summary Tape File 3 (STF3), 1990 Census of Population and Housing. Population totals for Canadian jurisdictions are based on 1991 Canadian Census data for persons ages 15 and older, out of school, without secondary-level credentials or further training (Statistics Canada, 1991 Canada Census; Cat. No. 93-328, Table 5).
2. Participation rate is the number of persons completing the GED battery divided by the population of out-of-school adults without secondary level (high school) credentials.
3. Credentialing rate is the number of persons issued GED credentials divided by the population of out-of-school adults without secondary level (high school) credentials.
4. N/A=Not Available.
5. Population of adults without diplomas reported for Micronesia includes persons in the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands and the Republic of Palau. Census data were not available for the Republic of the Marshall Islands or for the Federated States of Micronesia.

Jurisdiction	Population of Adults Without Diplomas[1]	Number Completing Battery	Participation Rate (in percents)[2]	Number of Credentials Issued	Credentialing Rate (in percents)[3]
American Samoa	11,364	33	0.3	20	0.2
Panama Canal Area	N/A[4]	0	N/A	0	N/A
Guam	21,688	234	1.1	157	0.7
Micronesia[5]	14,975	336	2.2	103	0.7
Puerto Rico	1,241,864	16,590	1.3	11,053	0.9
Virgin Islands	27,962	283	1.0	152	0.5
US+Territories	**45,523,643**	**733,072**	**1.6**	**514,297**	**1.1**
Alberta	573,165	2,545	0.4	1,768	0.3
British Columbia	745,970	3,613	0.5	2,542	0.3
Manitoba	323,970	1,330	0.4	751	0.2
New Brunswick	218,190	1,516	0.7	944	0.4
Newfoundland	182,075	666	0.4	385	0.2
Northwest Terr.	14,520	129	0.9	56	0.4
Nova Scotia	256,545	2,753	1.1	1,476	0.6
Ontario	2,399,740	731	0.0	594	0.0
Prince Edward Is.	36,590	223	0.6	164	0.4
Saskatchewan	289,740	2,283	0.8	1,454	0.5
Yukon Territory	4,595	86	1.9	51	1.1
Canada	**5,045,100**	**15,960**	**0.3**	**10,185**	**0.2**
Program Total	**50,568,743**	**758,570**	**1.5**	**524,482**	**1.0**

TABLE 10

Population of Adults Without High School Diplomas, GED Participation Rate, and GED Credentialing Rate, by Jurisdiction

- ★ In 1990, more than 50 million adults throughout North America lacked high school diplomas: 44 million in the U.S., 1 million in the U.S. Territories, and 5 million in Canada.
- ★ Worldwide, only 1 percent of all adults without diplomas earned GED credentials in 1996.
- ★ Only two jurisdictions surpassed credentialing rates of 2.5 percent: Alaska (4 percent) and Utah (3 percent).

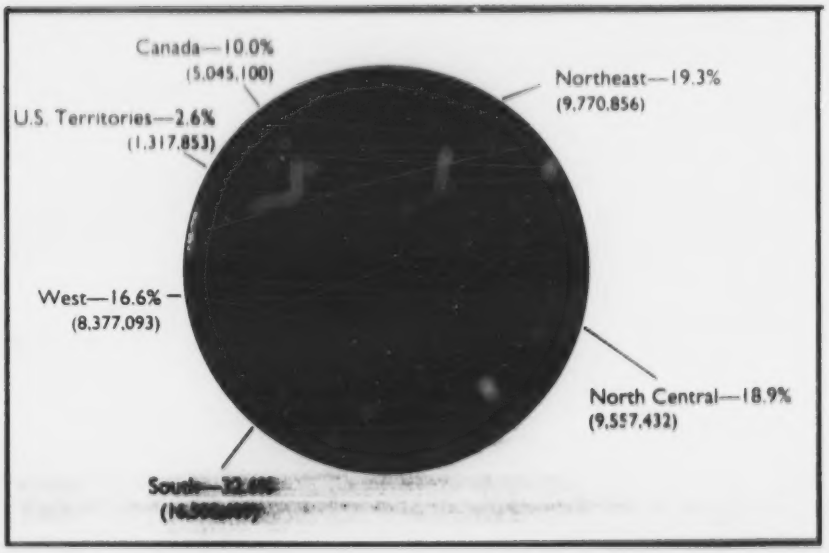


FIGURE 10

Percent (and Number) of Out-of-School Adults Without High School Diplomas, by Region

Source: U.S. Census, 1990, and Canada Census, 1991

TABLE 11

Trends in GED Testing, 1949–1996

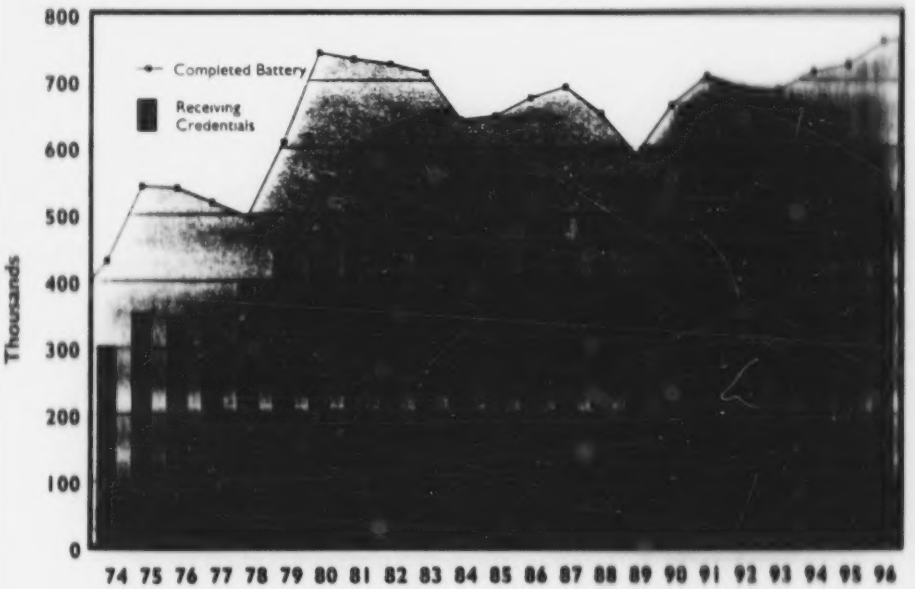
- ★ Since 1949, an estimated 20.8 million persons have taken the GED Tests.
- ★ An estimated 12.6 million persons have earned GED credentials since 1949.
- ★ The number of persons completing the GED Tests in 1996 (758,570) is the highest in the program's history.

Year	Number of Official GED Test Centers	Number of People Completing Battery	Percentage Meeting Score Requirements	Average Age	Average Years of Schooling	Percent Planning Further Study	Number of Credentials Issued
1949–66	679[1]	N/A[2]	75.4[3]	28.7[4]	9.9[4]	34.6[4]	904,488[5]
1967	1,194	N/A	70.0	29.5	9.7	36.0	152,870[6]
1968	1,336	N/A	69.4	29.5	9.7	39.9	184,256[6]
1969	1,566	N/A	71.7	29.4	9.7	37.3	210,404[6]
1970	1,711	N/A	70.8	29.1	9.7	40.1	234,726[6]
1971	1,858	N/A	68.7	28.0	9.8	41.2	231,558
1972	1,997	N/A	67.4	27.4	9.8	44.3	248,790
1973	2,135	N/A	68.2	25.1	9.8	42.0	256,905
1974	2,421	430,253	68.9	27.2	10.7	40.0	300,674
1975	2,462	541,914	70.2	25.1	10.0	42.1	351,327
1976	2,549	539,729	67.8	25.4	10.0	39.4	346,490
1977	2,704	517,847	69.7	25.0	10.0	37.8	342,828
1978	2,708	495,728	N/A	25.9	9.9	35.6	392,511
1979	2,799	608,229	68.4	25.3	10.0	40.8	445,426
1980	2,753	741,601	70.8	25.1	10.0	36.6	500,203
1981	2,900	732,229	72.1	25.1	9.9	46.1	513,549
1982	3,046	724,971	73.9	25.1	9.9	48.4	509,155
1983	3,009	711,946	73.1	25.4	9.8	48.6	490,329
1984	3,395	641,697	73.0	25.8	9.8	49.1	450,331
1985	3,371	647,496	72.4	25.8	9.8	51.3	439,922
1986	3,243	674,430	72.6	26.5	9.9	54.8	451,294
1987	3,314	690,509	74.1	26.7	9.9	49.7	472,007
1988	3,450	651,247	72.3	26.7	9.9	47.5	435,318
1989	3,468	589,002	68.4	26.2	10.0	53.6	376,879
1990	3,316	662,789	69.9	26.5	9.9	56.5	431,231
1991	3,445	706,182	71.5	26.4	9.9	58.6[7]	483,854
1992	3,401	688,582	71.4	26.6	9.9	61.4	479,252
1993	3,250	685,304[7]	71.4	26.0	9.9	61.7[7]	489,474[7]
1994	3,300	712,421[7]	73.0[7]	25.6	9.9	65.6[7]	510,587[7]
1995	3,255	723,899	72.0	25.3	9.9	63.7	523,463
1996	3,493	758,570	71.5	25.0	9.9	64.5	524,482

1. Average number of centers for 18-year period.
2. N/A=Not Available.
3. Average percentage for years 1954–1966.
4. Average for years 1958–1966.
5. Total number of credentials issued in years 1949–1966. The number in each year is estimated by multiplying the total number tested by the percentage of people who met state score requirements in that year.
6. The number of credentials issued is estimated by multiplying the total number tested by the percentage of people who met state score requirements in that year.
7. This number has been revised since the report for that year.

FIGURE 11

Number of GED Candidates Receiving Credentials Compared With Total Number Completing the Test Battery, 1974–1996



Source: GED Testing Service, American Council on Education

TABLE 12

GED Passing Score Requirements[1]: Percent of High School Graduates Meeting GED Standard and Jurisdictions Requiring GED Standard in 1996

Minimum GED Score Standard[2]	Percent of H.S. Graduates Meeting Standard[3]	Jurisdictions Requiring GED Standard
US+Territories		
Minimum 40 or Mean 45	75	Louisiana, Mississippi, Nebraska, Texas, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, Federated States of Micronesia, Republic of the Marshall Islands
Minimum 40 or Mean 50	71	New Mexico
Minimum 35 and Mean 45	70	Alabama, Alaska, Arizona, Connecticut, Georgia, Hawaii, Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Kansas, Maine, Massachusetts, Michigan, Minnesota, Montana, Nevada, New Hampshire, North Carolina, Ohio, Pennsylvania, Rhode Island, South Carolina, Tennessee, Vermont, Virginia, Wyoming, Guam, Kwajalein, Puerto Rico, Virgin Islands
Minimum 40	70	American Samoa
Minimum 40 and Mean 45	66	Arkansas, California, Colorado, Delaware, District of Columbia, Florida, Idaho, Kentucky, Maryland, Missouri, New York, North Dakota, Oklahoma, Oregon, South Dakota, Utah, Washington, West Virginia, Panama Canal Area, Republic of Palau
Minimum 40 and Mean 46	64	Wisconsin
42 on Test 1, 40 on Tests 2–4, 45 on Test 5, and Mean 45		New Jersey
Canada		
Minimum 40 and Mean 45	70	Newfoundland
Minimum 45	66	Alberta, British Columbia, Manitoba, New Brunswick (English and French), Northwest Territories, Nova Scotia, Ontario, Prince Edward Island, Saskatchewan, Yukon Territory

1. Jurisdictional requirements are described in the GED Examiner's Manual, Sections 3.8.3–3.8.5.
2. Each state, province, or territory that contracts to use the GED Tests establishes its own minimum score requirements. However, effective through 1996, ACE Commission on Educational Credit and Credentials requires that such score requirements be set at a standard *no lower* than that which would result from requiring: a minimum standard score of 40 on each test in the battery *or* an average standard score of at least 45 on all tests in the battery. In the United States, this minimum standard of "Minimum 40 or Mean 45" was met by an estimated 75 percent of the 1987 high school norm group. As of January 1, 1997, the minimum standard is "Minimum of 40 *and* Mean of 45."
3. U.S. percentages are based on data from a national sample of graduating high school seniors who took all five GED Tests in the spring of 1987. The percentages reported from Canada are estimates based on the performance of Canadian seniors who took individual GED Tests during the spring of 1987 or the spring of 1988. These percentages were estimated using a conditional probability model.

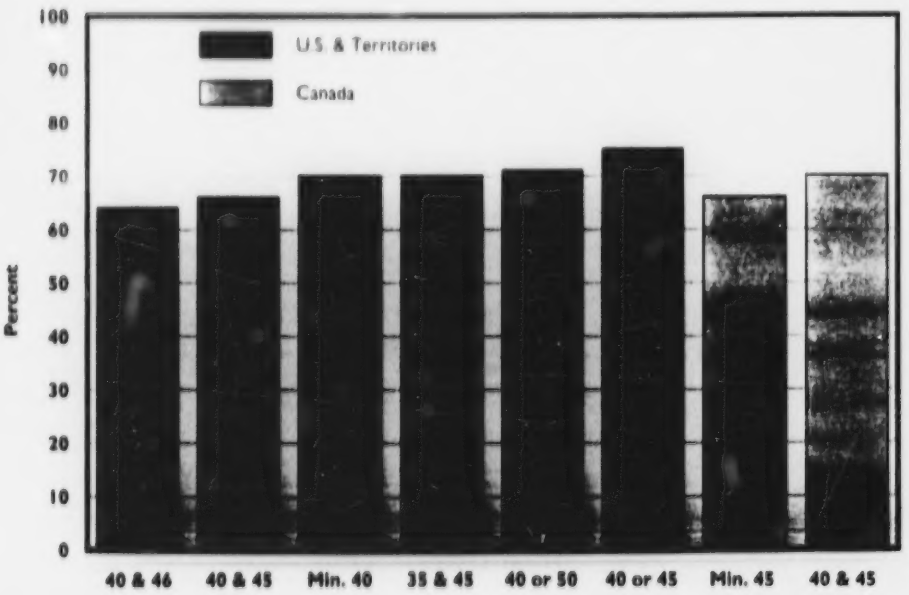


FIGURE 12

Percent of High School Graduates Meeting GED Passing Score Requirements, in U.S. and Territories and in Canada

Note: Requirements are expressed as Minimum and/or Mean scores. Candidates must score the minimum on each test and/or achieve the mean average for the entire battery. This table is based on jurisdictional passing score requirements in effect through December 1996.

Source: GED Testing Service, American Council on Education

TABLE 13

Policies[1] for Issuing High School Equivalency Credentials Based on GED Tests, by Jurisdiction

U.S. Jurisdictions	Minimum Scores[2]	Residency Requirements	Testing Fee Per Battery	Minimum Age For Testing	Minimum Age For Credential
Alabama	35 and 45	30 days	$25	18	18
Alaska	35 and 45	resident	$25 max.	18	18
Arizona	35 and 45	none	$25 max.	18	18
Arkansas	40 and 45	resident	none	16	16
California	40 and 45	resident	varies	18	18
Colorado	40 and 45	resident	$25–$40	17	17
Connecticut	35 and 45	resident	over 20, $13[3]	17	17
Delaware	40 and 45	resident	$25	18	18
District of Columbia	40 and 45	resident	$20	18	18
Florida	40 and 45	resident	$25	18	18
Georgia	35 and 45	none	$35	18	18
Hawaii	35 and 45	resident	$20	17	17
Idaho	40 and 45	resident	varies	18	18
Illinois	35 and 45	30 days	$15	18	18
Indiana	35 and 45	30 days	$25 max.	17	17
Iowa	35 and 45	none	$20	17	17
Kansas	35 and 45	resident	$30	16	16
Kentucky	40 and 45	resident	$25	16	16
Louisiana	40 or 45	resident	$20 max.	17	17
Maine	35 and 45	none	none	18	18
Maryland	40 and 45	90 days	$18	16	16
Massachusetts	35 and 45	resident	$40	19	19
Michigan	35 and 45	30 days	varies	16	18
Minnesota	35 and 45	resident	$40 max.	19	19
Mississippi	40 or 45	30 days	$20	17	17
Missouri	40 and 45	resident	$20	16	16
Montana	35 and 45	resident	$18	17	17
Nebraska	40 or 45	30 days	$20–$30	16	18
Nevada	35 and 45	none	$25	17	17
New Hampshire	35 and 45	resident	$40	18	18
New Jersey	see requirement[4]	none	$25	16	16
New Mexico	40 or 50	resident	varies	18	18
New York	40 and 45	30 days	none	19	19
North Carolina	35 and 45	resident	$7.50	16	16
North Dakota	40 and 45	none	varies	18	18
Ohio	35 and 45	resident	$42	19	19
Oklahoma	40 and 45	resident	varies	16	16
Oregon	40 and 45	resident	varies	18	18
Pennsylvania	35 and 45	resident	varies	18	18
Rhode Island	35 and 45	resident	$15	16	16
South Carolina	35 and 45	resident	varies	17	17
South Dakota	40 and 45	resident	$20 max.	17	18
Tennessee	35 and 45	resident	$20–$25	18	18
Texas	40 or 45	resident	varies	18	18
Utah	40 and 45	resident	$28 and up	17	17
Vermont	35 and 45	none	$25	16	16
Virginia	35 and 45	resident	$25	18	18
Washington	40 and 45	resident	$25	19	19
West Virginia	40 and 45	30 days	varies	18	18
Wisconsin	40 and 46	10 days	varies	18	18
Wyoming	35 and 45	resident	varies	17	18

1. See jurisdictional requirements in GED Examiner's Manual for exceptions, limitations, and additional fees.
2. Minimum scores of 35 and 45 mean that a person must score at least 35 on each test *and* achieve an average of 45 on the entire battery. Minimum score policies reported here apply through calendar year 1996.
3. Otherwise, free
4. N.J. = 42 on Test 1, 40 on Tests 2–4 and 45 on Test 5, and a total score of 225.

TABLE 13

Policies[1] for Issuing High School Equivalency Credentials Based on GED Tests, by Jurisdiction

U.S. Jurisdictions	Minimum Scores[2]	Residency Requirements	Testing Fee Per Battery	Minimum Age For Testing	Minimum Age For Credential
US+Territories					
American Samoa	40 each test	resident	$20	17	17
Panama Canal Area	40 and 45	resident	$38	17	17
Guam	35 and 45	resident	$10	18	18
Kwajalein Island	35 and 45	resident	$27.50	18	18
N. Mariana Is.	40 or 45	45 days	$25	16	18
Marshall Islands	40 or 45	30 days	$7.50	17	17
Micronesia	40 or 45	resident	$7.50	17	17
Republic of Palau	40 and 45	none	$10	16	16
Puerto Rico	35 and 45	resident	none	18	18
Virgin Islands	35 and 45	90 days	$20	17	18
Canada					
Alberta	45 each test	none	$50	18	18
British Columbia	45 each test	resident	$45	19	19
Manitoba	45 each test	none	$45	19	19
New Brunswick	45 each test	none	$10	19	19
Newfoundland	40 and 45	resident	none	19	19
Northwest Terr.	45 each test	6 months	$20	18	18
Nova Scotia	45 each test	none	$20	19	19
Ontario	45 each test	resident	$45	19	19
Prince Edward Is.	45 each test	resident	$20	17	19
Saskatchewan	45 each test	resident	$25	17	19
Yukon Territory	45 each test	resident	$25	19	19

★ For most participating jurisdictions, the minimum age policy for issuing credentials is at least 18.

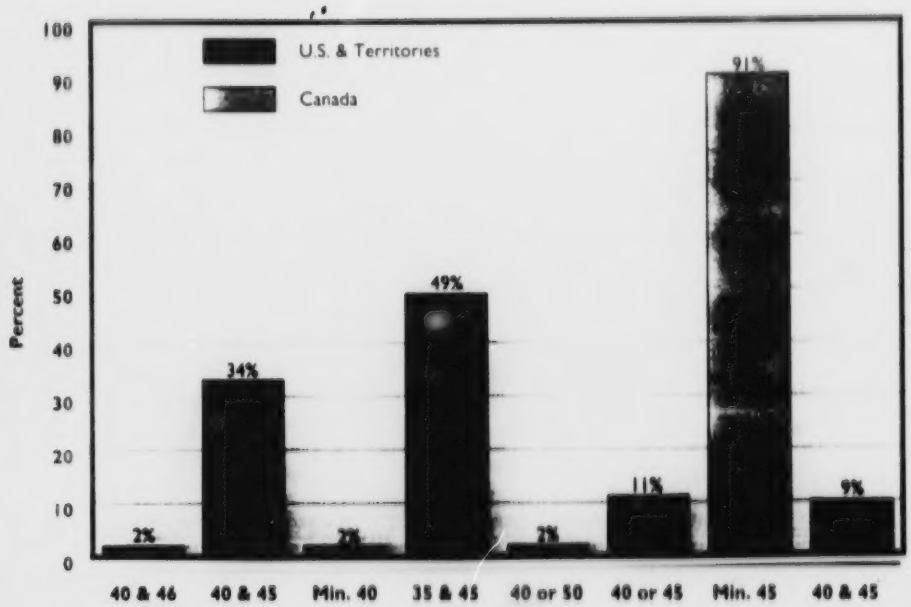


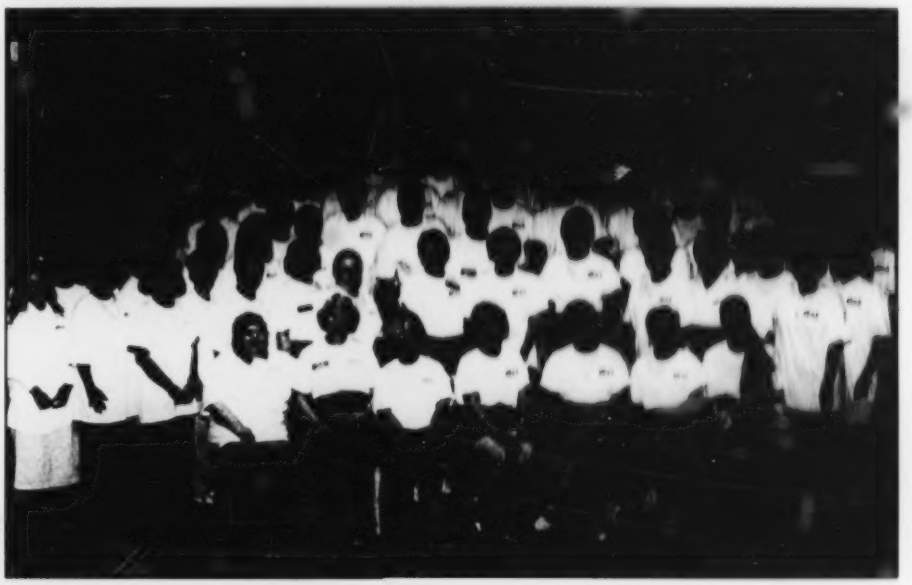
FIGURE 13

Percent of Jurisdictions By Minimum GED Score Requirements, in U.S. and Territories and in Canada

Note: Requirements are expressed as Minimum and/or Mean scores. Candidates must score the minimum on each test and/or achieve the mean average for the entire battery. New Jersey and American Samoa are not included. New Jersey requires a minimum of 42 on Test 1, 40 on Tests 2-4, 45 on Test 5, and a total score of 225. American Samoa requires a minimum of 40 on each test.

Source: GED Testing Service, American Council on Education

The GED Administrators



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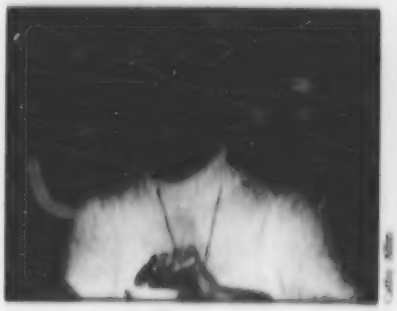

GED Publications

General Publications

Who Took the GED? GED 1996 Statistical Report. Annual statistics about who took the GED Tests during the calendar year 1996. Contains testing and high school credentialing information from participating jurisdictions in the United States, U.S. Territories, and Canada, as well as overseas and in the military. **(Order #25-0796; $20.00)**

The GED Annual Statistical Reports. Back issues of the yearly GED statistical reports for 1958–1995. **(Order #25-0758–#25-0795; $15.00 per back issue)**

Information Bulletin on the Tests of General Educational Development. A 16-page booklet with information about the GED Tests, including sample test questions and where to call for information about testing locally. **(Order #25-0605; Free)**

GED Test Accommodations for Candidates with Specific Learning Disabilities. **(Order #25-1006; $1.00)**

GED Items. The bimonthly newsletter of the GED Testing Service. **(Order #25-0401; Free)**

***Examiner's Manual for the Tests of General Educational Development* (1993).** Policies and procedures of the GED Testing Program. **(Order #25-1001; $15.00)**

***The Tests of General Educational Development Technical Manual* (1993).** Technical information about the GED Tests. The information in this manual is intended for those who select or evaluate tests, interpret scores, or use GED Test results to make educational decisions. **(Order #25-1203; $20.00)**

"The Canadianization of the GED": The History and Development of the General Educational Development Testing Program in Canada. (GEDTS Occasional Paper, No. 1, 1987) **(Order #25-1206; $5.00)**

***The GED Testing Program: The First Fifty Years* (1992).** Available on request. **(Order #25-0608; Free)**

Research Studies

Tests of General Educational Development Bibliography (1997). Revised bibliography of studies and articles related to the GED testing program. **(Order #25-1201; $10.00)**

The Literacy Proficiencies of GED Examinees: Results from the GED-NALS Comparison Study (1995). This report presents findings about the literacy proficiencies of adults who take the GED Tests, including passers and nonpassers. The report also provides information about what skills are measured in common by the GED Tests and the National Adult Literacy Survey Scale. **(Order #25-0802; $20.00)**

Literacy Skills of Adults and Potential College Students. *ACE Research Briefs* (1995). This brief compares the prose, document, and quantitative literacy skills of recent GED graduates with those of college-educated adults in the U.S. **(Order #25-0807; $5.00)**

***GED Profiles: Adults in Transition* (1990–94).** Seven research reports based on the 1989 National Candidate Study and the 1989 GED Test Performance Study. These reports address schooling, employment, reasons for dropping out of school, and test performance of adults who take the GED Tests. **(Order #25-0706; $55.00 for set)**

GED Profiles: Adults in Transition. Seven research reports **($10.00 each):**

1. GED Candidates: A Decade of Change (1990). (Order #25-0707; Free introductory issue)

2. Schooling, Study, and Academic Goals: The Education of GED Candidates (1991). (Order #25-0708)

3. GED Candidates in the Workforce: Employed and Employable (1991). (Order #25-0709)

4. Why Did They Drop Out? Reasons GED Candidates Give For Leaving School (1991). (Order #25-0710)

5. GED Test Performance of Adult Examinees and High School Seniors (1992). (Order #25-0711)

6. The Gender Gap: Women and Men Who Take the GED Tests (1993). (Order #25-0712)

7. GED Candidates: Does Age Make a Difference? (1994). (Order #25-0713)

***GED Candidates in Canada: A Report on the 1992 Canadian Candidate Survey* (1994).** This report addresses demographic background characteristics, schooling and study experiences, employment experiences, and academic and employment goals of adults who take the GED Tests in Canada. **(Order #25-0714; $15.00)**

***Outcomes of GED Graduation: An Annotated Bibliography of Research Reports* (1993).** Annotated bibliography of educational and economic outcomes research. **(Order #25-1202; $5.00)**

***Does the Key Fit the Lock? A Review of Research on GED Recipients in Community Colleges* (1993).** This analytical review of the literature examines the educational experiences of GED recipients in two-year colleges. **(Order #25-0801; $5.00)**

***Relationship of the GED Tests to Skills Needed in the Workplace* (1991).** Prepared for the GED Testing Service by Pelavin Associates, Inc. **(Order #25-1204; $5.00)**

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This is a partial list of available publications. For a complete listing, call the GED Testing Fulfillment Service at (301) 604-9073.

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GEDTS Publications Available from Other Sources

Official Teacher's Guide to the Tests of General Educational Development **(1987). Sample items, examinee performance data, and teaching suggestions are included for each section of the tests. Available from Contemporary Books, Inc., 180 N. Michigan Ave., Chicago IL 60601. (800) 621-1918.**

Official GED Practice Tests and Teachers' Manual **(1991). Half-length and full-length tests, comparable in content, difficulty, and format to the GED Tests. Materials are available in English-language (U.S. and Canadian editions), Spanish-language, French-language, audiocassette, braille, and large print editions. Available from Steck-Vaughn Co., P.O. Box 26015, Austin TX 78755. (800) 531-5015, Fax (512) 343-6854. In Canada (416) 513-6966, Fax (416) 513-6977.**

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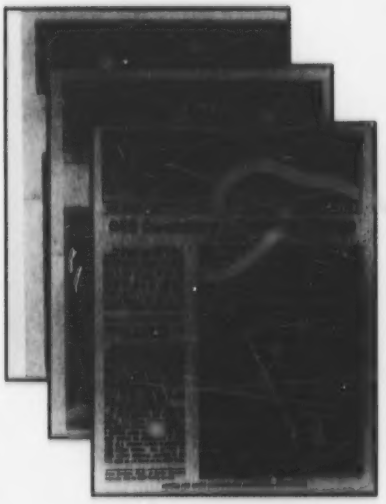

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